

## Hurd and Cabinet new arrivals given Whitelaw's posts

# Key new roles for Major and Parkinson

By Robin Oakley and Philip Webster

Mr Cecil Parkinson and Mr John Major have been given key new roles in the Cabinet machine in the aftermath of Lord Whitelaw's retirement.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, also gains an enhanced status.

In the redistribution of Cabinet committee chairmanships previously held by Lord Whitelaw, Mrs Thatcher has underlined the workload he had assumed by spreading the roles widely. But in so doing she has given personal boosts to three possible contenders in a future leadership election.

Mr Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, has been appointed to chair the important sub-committee of the Cabinet's Economic Affairs Committee which deals with local government finance. Its lengthy deliberations each year culminate in the fixing of the Rate Support Grant settlement, which has extensive public expenditure ramifications.

It was regarded by ministers as one of Lord Whitelaw's most vital roles. The fact that Mrs Thatcher has passed the

job to Mr Parkinson, who is technically only 20th in the Cabinet pecking order, marks another important step on his way back up the ladder.

Mr Parkinson became a close confidant of the Prime Minister during his time as party chairman and remained in close touch with her throughout his period on the back benches. He returned in the reshuffle that followed the general election, after an absence of four years.

His fellow ministers are particularly intrigued by the new role accorded to Mr Major, who came into the Cabinet for the first time after the election as Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Mr Major, who made a big impression conducting his first public expenditure round as Chief Secretary, is to have a new role involving the co-ordination of Government publicity. He will adjudicate between conflicting approaches from different Government departments and be responsible for overseeing Government publications and publicity efforts in specific areas. In particular, all proposals on pay will be publicised through him. It is a job which requires fine political antennae and the ability to spot potential banana skins a long way off.

Whitelaw sources were at pains last night to play down the scope of Mr Major's new role and said that his precise responsibilities were still unclear. But while he is clearly not taking on the role exactly as Lord Whitelaw left it, Mr Major is moving into a formidable role, a tribute to the speed of his advance as the most junior member of the Cabinet.

Mr Hurd has been given charge of a secret Cabinet committee which co-ordinates the Government's efforts to counter terrorism. One of the big issues the committee will face over the next months will be the implications for countering terrorism as European border controls are relaxed, as part of efforts to build a single European market with fewer impediments to cross-border trade. Mr Hurd has made plain his determination to resist any moves to scrap border checks.

Some ministers had expected Mr Hurd to be put in charge of the "H" committee on home and social affairs. That, as previously disclosed, has been given to Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the Commons and Lord President of the Council.

It is understood that Mr Hurd did not have ambitions to take over that committee, feeling that the weight of potential Home office legislation coming before it would make it impossible for him to chair it.

## Reagan defiant despite Contra aid vote defeat

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan said last night that the congressional vote against aid to the Nicaraguan Contras "undercuts the efforts of those brave men and women at a critical juncture in the Central American peace process."

The communist regime in Managua should not interpret the vote as a signal permitting a reversal in steps taken by Nicaragua towards fulfilment of commitments made under the Guatemala peace accord, signed six months ago by all

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who became No 2 in the Cabinet pecking order when Lord Whitelaw departed, has not been given any major new role in Cabinet committees but he had not expected one. Since he is away so often as Foreign Secretary, and is so deeply involved in Europe, there would be no time for him to become more closely involved in domestic policy issues.

Mr Wakeham has also been given the chairmanship of the legislation committee, which draws up the Queen's Speech. His star has undoubtedly risen since the election, when Mrs Thatcher lost some of her previous faith in him after a disastrous radio broadcast. But the distribution of the prizes shows that Mr Wakeham is not to be accorded anything like the influence which Lord Whitelaw had.

One other Cabinet committee chairmanship which Lord Whitelaw held, that of the AIDS committee, has already been passed to Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services.

There is no new Cabinet committee post for Lord Young, but this does not reflect any lessening of his links with the Prime Minister. The departure of Lord Whitelaw is expected to give Lord Young a greater say in the economic committees of which he is already a member. The period of cohesiveness between him and the Prime Minister in November and December, which followed the controversy over the Tory party chairmanship, is now said to have ended.



Mr John Wakeham: to head the legislation committee



Mr Cecil Parkinson, new economic affairs role



Mr John Major, appointed Cabinet co-ordinator of some Government publicity

## 80 babies a year in danger

By Peter Davenport

Up to 80 babies a year will die or survive only with handicaps in north-west England because of cuts in the number of intensive care cots, senior doctors said yesterday.

They were disclosing their "grave concern" because of a persistent failure by officials to act on their warnings. Dr David Thistlethwaite said: "We are not shrouding and we have evidence to back up our figures. We have had to go public because of a lack of any real action."

He chairs a committee of consultants from five hospitals around the North-west and a professor of child health from Manchester University. For five years they have been asking the North-west Regional Health Authority to increase the number of intensive care cots for ill and premature babies.

Their concern has been heightened by a decision to reduce the number of cots from 15 to 10 at the region's main centre for such babies, St Mary's, Manchester.

The doctors said the reduction means there will be no places for 70 per cent of the weakest babies needing to be moved from other hospitals.

Dr Thistlethwaite, a consultant paediatrician at Burnley General Hospital, added: "The babies who have to be refused admission will be offered a lesser standard. We believe that increases the risk of death and of others surviving with handicaps."

The figures, he said, were based on research into the survival rate of babies admitted to St Mary's and those who had to receive treatment at other, non-specialist hospitals.

A regional strategy in 1986 called for 80 intensive care cots. The reduction at St Mary's, caused by a lack of specially trained nurses, brought the total to only 48. Health service unions, spread on by Wednesday's 24-hour strike, are planning four more days of action over the next few weeks, culminating in a national TUC rally on March 5.

Continued on page 20, col 3

## Seamen defy leaders' order to end strike

By John Spicer and Andrew Morgan

Faced with legal actions that could have financially crippled their union, leaders of the ferry crewmen called off their three-day strike yesterday and ordered their men back to work.

Last night, men at the key ports of Dover, Harwich and Portsmouth were defiant and said they would not be going back. Men at Felixstowe said they would not resume work because they had not received instructions to do so.

No British ships are due to sail from Dover and Folkestone in the near future as 3,000 crewmen continue their strike action which began last Tuesday, over manning disputes. The National Union of Seamen said in Dover yesterday that the dispute with P&O European Ferries and British Sealink Ferries was unconnected with the national

strike, widened by the action at Heysham in Lancashire. Union representatives at Dover, Harwich and Portsmouth said that in the past few days they had conducted ballots concerning plans by their employers, Sealink and P&O, which eroded local agreements.

Their members had voted for action by large majorities and this was primary action, not support for men dismissed elsewhere. Officials said they were striking over local issues and would stay out.

Immediate response from the companies was that they would return to the High Court to enforce the orders banning strike action if work was not resumed.

All the NUS port committee chairmen and other local officials have been called to the union's headquarters in London for a meeting today. It

is expected they will be told to call off all industrial action.

The men at Dover intend to hold a mass meeting tomorrow morning to discuss the strike. At national level, leaders of the NUS backed down totally in the High Court yesterday morning. Outside the court, Mr Sam McCuskie, the union general secretary, said: "I should like to make it clear that at no time have I or my union intended deliberately to defy the order of the court or to flout the law."

As he spoke, instructions were being sent out from the union's headquarters in south London to branch secretaries and committee chairmen at ports all round the country, which said: "It is very important in the interests of the union that this instruction is complied with forthwith. If it

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## All-out Ford strike looms as deal is rejected

By Roland Rudd, Daniel Ward and Robin Oakley

Ford faced the prospect of an all-out strike last night after its 32,500 manual workers rejected the advice of their union negotiators and voted against a three-year pay and conditions package by a majority of 62 per cent.

In secret ballots at the company's 22 plants, workers threw out the package that would have given them 7 per cent in the first year and 2.5 per cent above the rate of inflation in the second and third years, worth £41 a week to a basic grade worker.

The deal would also have abolished the dividing line between skilled and semi-skilled workers.

Of the 20 plants whose votes were announced, 10 voted to accept; but nine of these were the company's small plants.

While union leaders put a brave face on shopfloor rejection of the deal which they had called "an historic achievement", the Prime Minister said in the Commons that component workers, who would be badly hit by a strike, should blame Ford employees for lay-offs.

Union officials had urged workers to accept the "final" deal, hammered out late on Sunday evening, just a few hours before a strike was set to cripple the company.

But the last-minute about-turn by the negotiating team, which had originally recommended a strike, appeared to have led to confusion on the

shopfloor where angry stewards told workers to vote against the deal.

Mr Jimmy Airlie, negotiator for the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said: "I am not surprised at the result. There was deep hostility to the length of the contract the company were insisting on coupled with what our members see as unacceptable strings attached to the offer."

Ford is not well placed to ride out the effects of a strike at its British plants. Stocks of new cars at dealers are below average.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, said that a strike would result in work being switched to the Continent and jobs being lost in Britain.

Mr Fowler, speaking on BBC Radio Four's *World at One*, described the Ford pay package as "a good offer" and the changes the company was trying to introduce as "sensible".

Ford was yesterday refusing to comment until it received "formal notification of the complete results". The union will meet management today in London, but the company made it clear that the meeting had been called for by the unions and did not constitute further negotiations.

With only the results from Ford's Southampton plant and the electronics postal ballot to be recorded, the pay package was thrown out by 15,099 votes to 9,477.

## Ilea to be scrapped in 1990

By Nicholas Wood

Political Correspondent

The Inner London Education Authority is to be scrapped from April 1990.

The widely heralded decision, announced in the Commons yesterday by the Education Secretary, Mr Kenneth Baker, was greeted by cries of "vandal" from the Labour benches.

It came in the wake of a concerted backbench Conservative campaign led by Mr Michael Heseltine and Mr Norman Tebbit to displace the authority at one stroke rather than allowing it to wither on as proposed by the Secretary of State for Education and Science in his Education Reform Bill.

But Mr Baker, who is widely regarded as a likely successor to the Prime Minister when she decides to step down, was evidently determined that two of his most powerful potential

Continued on page 20, col 7

## Continental milk can come to UK

By John Young, London and Jonathan Brande, Brussels

Fresh milk from France, the Netherlands and West Germany may soon be arriving in Britain in bulk tankers as a result of a ruling yesterday by the European Court.

The court accepted the argument of the European Commission that existing bans on imports of pasteurized milk and cream was not compatible with EEC regulations.

The ban has been maintained until now on the grounds that pasteurization techniques elsewhere in Europe do not meet British health standards. But the court said yesterday that Britain must no longer prevent imports of milk that do meet its own health criteria.

The British dairy industry appeared to be taking the decision calmly, partly because the Government had already indicated that it intended to ease the restrictions from the beginning of next year.

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that imports would continue to be excluded until new regulations had been drafted.

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## WIN £32,000

### Portfolio Accumulator

There is still £32,000 in the Portfolio Accumulator fund waiting to be won. Yesterday's £4,000 daily prize was won outright (see page 3) but watch for tomorrow's £8,000 weekly prize.

The Accumulator jackpot will be won by a reader with a number higher than the daily total, or, on Saturdays, higher than the weekly total.

Rules and how to play, page 19  
Portfolio list, page 25

## IN PART 2

### Union backing

The electricity industry trade unions are prepared to back Lord Marshall, the CEBG chairman, in his continued opposition to privatization of the national grid. Page 21

### NZ gas talks

British Gas is negotiating to buy a New Zealand state-owned oil and gas company in a privatization deal worth up to £300 million. Page 21

### Members plan

A report commissioned by the Football League has supported the policy of club membership schemes and has recommended that more steps be taken to increase members' areas in grounds. Page 34

### England fined

England were fined for bowling their overs too slowly while losing by 22 runs to Australia in their one-day international. Page 32

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## Bardot appeal for animals

Madrid (AFP) - Brigitte Bardot, the former film star who now campaigns for animal rights, has sent several letters to Queen Sophia of Spain to ask her for support.

A radio programme said that Miss Bardot had written to the Queen, imploring her to use her influence to stop the wholesale capture of certain animals.

## Launch date

Paris (AFP) - The next launch of the European Ariane rocket, to put a French and an American satellite into orbit, is planned for March 11.

## House stunned by attack on clause

By Sheila Gann, Political Staff

Lord Monckswell stunned his fellow peers yesterday by turning an apology over lesbians who had absented into the Upper House into an attack on legislation which proposes to ban the promotion of homosexuality by local authorities.

His abuse of the conventions of the House drove Lord Belstead, the new leader of the Lords, to announce that an informal investigation will be held into the procedures for making personal statements.

He won the backing of other party leaders in the House of Lords, who were equally outraged and embarrassed by the Labour peer's outburst.

As the House assembled yesterday, Lord Monckswell confessed to a bushed, packed House that he must have signed

the pass which allowed four women to sit in the privileged side gallery on Tuesday, from where they could stage their dramatic invasion of the chamber.

But he added: "While I neither condemn or condone the demonstration,

Parliament

I believe it was inevitable considering the vote on Clause 28."

Peers broke their normal constraints to cry out "shame". But Lord Monckswell was not finished.

"I conclude with the words of a 12-year-old girl yesterday in connection with Clause 28 - that it is just what the Germans did to the Jews."

He sat down to more cries of "shame", but left the chamber soon after.

Outside, he remained unrepentant. He was shunned by fellow peers from all parties, including those who strongly oppose Clause 28.

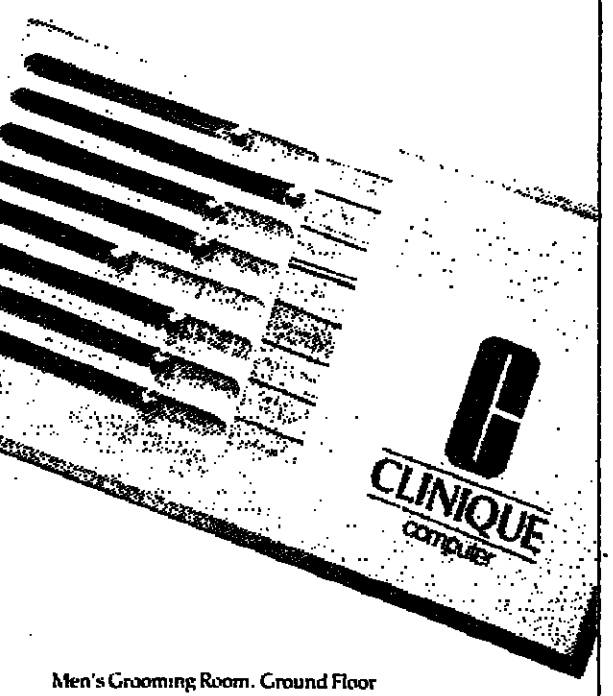
Before he left the building, Lord Monckswell told *The Times*: "I do not go out of my way to upset people, but one of the things I feel very strongly about is that people should speak the truth and unfortunately that hurts some people sometimes."

"The House of Lords does not operate in the way it likes to suggest it does. It is not composed of independent-minded people. It is a very party-political House. That is the sort of truth that upsets some people."

He rejected appeals before the sitting not to make a public confession.

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# Inquiry praises PC who helped to fight King's Cross blaze

By Rodney Cowton and Tony Dawe

The man who guided passengers to the King's Cross ticket hall last November, where many met their deaths, gave evidence to the public inquiry on the Underground fire disaster yesterday and emerged a hero.

British Transport Police Constable Terry Bebbington said he made the decision to move passengers along Victoria line escalators into the ticket hall, which later caught the full force of the inferno.

He said he was "just concerned to keep people moving away from the Piccadilly line escalator", where the fire started.

PC Bebbington was praised by counsel for both the London Fire Brigade and the National Union of Railwaymen for the assistance he had given firemen and Underground staff on the night of the disaster, in which 31 people died.

It was his second experience of an Underground fire. He helped to rescue hundreds of passengers from a train trapped in a tunnel between Green Park and Oxford Circus stations after a fire three years ago, the inquiry was told.

When PC Bebbington finished giving evidence yesterday, the chairman, said: "It would be wrong for you to leave this court without a public commendation for the very great courage you showed that night. Well done, thank you very much."

PC Bebbington said he was in a temporary control room in the ticket hall at King's Cross station when he saw a person come up the No 4 Piccadilly line escalator and press the emergency "stop" button.

He went to the top of the escalator and looked down. He saw a flame and went about a third of the way down the escalator before running back to the ticket hall and out into Euston Road, where he used his personal radio system to ask British Transport Police headquarters to summon the fire brigade.

He then told Police Constable Julian Dixon to await the firemen's arrival and direct them to the fire. He returned to the top of the escalator and saw that the volume of smoke had increased and the fire had spread across the treads.

He ran down a stationary escalator and saw a flow of people about to ascend the group of escalators where the fire was spreading.

"I went down to stop people coming up and keep people moving away from the escalator", he said. "When I reached the bottom of the Piccadilly line escalator, the idea was to use the exits for the Victoria line."

Asked by Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel for the inquiry, whose idea that was, PC Bebbington said: "Mine, sir."

He said he spoke to a London Underground employee who was keeping passengers moving and trying to get them to go towards the Victoria line, "though at that stage, passengers were stopping and looking".

After a few minutes a fireman arrived, Temporary Sub-Officer Roger Bell. He and the London Underground staff member ran off, looking for a hydrant. PC Bebbington was then the only person at the foot of the Piccadilly line escalators trying to direct passengers.

He spoke by radio to Police Constable Kenneth Kerbey, who was at the top of the escalator. The decision was made that the station should be closed and evacuated. PC Bebbington said that decision came from PC Kerbey in consultation with PC Stephen Hanson.

He told PC Kerbey that he was going down to the Northern line platforms to direct passengers away from blaze. There, he directed about 250 people away from the Piccadilly line blaze and told them to use the Victoria line escalators.

A Northern line train arrived at the platform opposite him but he was not able to prevent people disembarking. He went to a telephone on his platform and dialled 999, requesting that trains should not stop at King's Cross.

He checked that the Northern line platforms had been cleared and then returned to the foot of the Piccadilly line escalators. There he found Sub-Officer Bell, and helped him use a water hose on the fire. It had no noticeable effect, although the pair tried twice to control the blaze.

"Neon light tubes were shattering and coming down. A piece of metal about 15ft long came down. It came down like a javelin", he said.

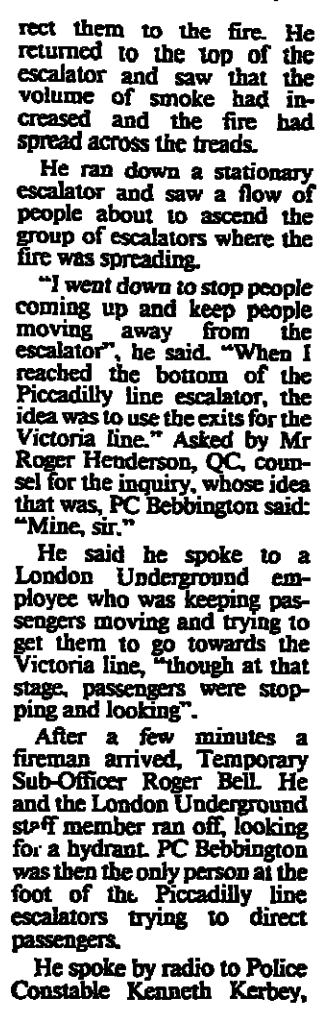
Asked who was in charge of the police constables at the time, he replied that no one was in charge until an inspector arrived, apparently from Earl's Court station.

Mr John Drinkwater, QC, for the London Fire Brigade, told PC Bebbington that fire officers "greatly appreciated the assistance you gave to Sub-Officer Bell that night".

The first member of the London Underground staff to see the initial fire, Mr Philip Brickell, aged 43, said he also guided passengers up the Victoria line escalators.

He had not tried to extinguish the fire when he first noticed it, he said, because he did not know what sort of fire it was, whether electrical equipment lay underneath the escalator, or whether someone was already trying to control the flames.

The inquiry continues today.



PC Bebbington, who showed "very great courage".

## Fatal foam fire

# Girl, 11, left with children

By David Sapsted

A girl aged 11 was left alone by her mother as a babysitter on the night four children died when flames and toxic fumes from polyurethane furniture filled their home in Somerset, an inquest in Bridgwater, was told yesterday.

The mother of the five, Mrs Heather Shadbolt, said in a written statement that she regarded her daughter Michelle as "capable of looking after" the four other children aged between two and 10.

A verdict of death by misadventure was returned on the four, after the jury was told that the most likely cause of the fire was the ignition of a piece of clothing that fell behind a boiler. The flames spread to other clothing

stacked on the boiler and then to a curtain and a foam-filled sofa.

Mr Michael Rose, the West Somerset coroner, had told jury members they could bring in misadventure verdicts if they considered other factors made the incident "more than an accident".

After the verdicts, he blamed the foam-filled furniture as a factor in the spread of the fire. "This is a salutary warning to everyone not to have such materials or to have clothes on boilers."

Mrs Shadbolt, aged 32, who had been married twice before, and her husband Philip had been at a nightclub on the evening of the fire. Michelle,

now aged 12 and a half-sister to the children who died, said: "It was the first time I have babysat for mum and dad as normally we have a babysitter."

She said the other children were upstairs when she first noticed the fire. She tried unsuccessfully to call a neighbour and then ran barefoot in her nightdress to a nearby restaurant to raise the alarm.

The jury heard that Stephen Swallows, aged 10, Holly Shadbolt, aged three, and Billie Shadbolt, aged two, had all died from asphyxiation caused by smoke and carbon monoxide fumes. Samantha Kilpin, aged seven, had died from shock caused by burns.

## Voyage around the law

# Tub captain avoids the brig

Old sea dog Eric Peters, the first man to cross the Atlantic in a barrel, walked free from court yesterday after his efforts to finance a voyage around the world in a 12-ft boat ran into stormy weather.

The former fisherman has for years been seeking official backing for a survival food he devised, which was ridiculed by naval medical experts until his record crossing on the special diet in 1982.

Mr Peters was carrying a collection box and an identity card when police arrested him near Victoria, central London, as he requested donations for his "sea safety and survival research" work.

At Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court yesterday

the Crown Prosecution Service offered no evidence against him.

Mr Peters, aged 48, of Spencer Road, Wandsworth, south-west London, was charged with obtaining money by deception.

After the hearing Miss Jacqueline Samuel, his solicitor, said: "He was going around pubs trying to raise money for his research into sea survival and to help finance his proposed voyage around the world in the smallest ever craft."

"I think the inference was that it was for charity and the police arrested him, but the prosecution decided to drop the charges because there is no suggestion of dishonesty."

Mr Peters crossed the Atlantic in a six-foot barrel with a sail, reaching the West Indies after a 46-day voyage from the Canary Islands.

He survived on a pint of water a day, a vitamin pill and three quarters of a pound of his survival food, a mixture of olive oil, nuts and bran.

Mr Peters said yesterday: "It seems to me criminal that my food rations are not in lifeboats and life rafts today."

Mr Peters, who will rely on his special diet during his two to three-year voyage around the world, was fined £50 in 1980 for staying away on the QE2 - in a tunnel - when stranded in the West Indies after a failed attempt to cross the Atlantic in a catamaran.

# Carnarvon family silver raises £1.4m

Lord Carnarvon raised more than £1 million towards the running of Highclere Castle yesterday when Sotheby's sold 42 pieces of silver from his family trust.

Nearly half that sum came from a much-heralded pair of George II wine coolers estimated at up to £300,000.

They were magnificently decorated with the Royal Arms, cherubs and masks, and bore the marks of two great eighteenth century makers, Paul de Lamerie overstruck by Paul Crespin. Koopman, the London dealer, paid £462,000.

A pair of 1826 copies of the wine coolers also sold for a

## SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland  
Art Market Correspondent

premium, at £104,500 (estimated £80,000 to £100,000), while a pair of William III ewers with distinctive helmet-shaped bodies, by Pierre Harache of London, dated 1700, fetched £143,000 (estimated £100,000 to £150,000), both lots selling to Koopman.

Lord Carnarvon said after the first big London sale this season: "The trust was set up to maintain the castle and the families". Highclere, a Victorian

Gothic pile near Newbury, was designed by James Barry and looks like the Houses of Parliament.

The sale will enable the family to open to the public for the first time this summer. The castle, Capability Brown gardens and memorabilia, including that of the ancestor who opened Tutankhamun's tomb, will be on show.

Mr Koopman says he al-

# Property prices up by 16%

By Christopher Warman  
Property Correspondent

House prices increased by 16.3 per cent in the year to the end of January 1988, the highest rise since the Halifax Building Society's house price index was introduced four years ago.

The average price for all houses is £49,337, while for new houses it is £57,992, an increase of 14.8 per cent over the past 12 months. Last month the figure was 13.6 per cent.

First-time buyers pay an average of £38,500, a 15.9 per cent rise over the year.

House prices increased by 2.6 per cent over the past three months compared with 3.1 per cent over the three months to October.

The Halifax finds no evidence that the stock market crash has had any marked effect on demand for property. Prices in London and the South-east continue to rise at around 25 per cent a year.

Prices in East Anglia and the West Midlands are strengthening still further, while house price inflation in northern England and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland remains well below the national average.

The building society's forecast of average house price inflation for 1988 remains at about 15 per cent.

ready has an American client waiting to possess the coolers. "Providing we can get an export licence, they are sold."

Yesterday's sale, the first of three over the next two weeks, was encouraging. Mr Peter Waldron of Sotheby's said: "It does seem that the market is still looking like a good refuge for money". The final total of £1.46 million exceeded his upper estimate by £500,000, with only half a per cent unsold.

Christie's South Kensington sold for £1,500 a miniature dolls' house made out of the Greenwhich Infirmary for the marionette daughter earlier this century.

# Chorus girls line up for opera



The chorus line of the English National Opera revival of *Orpheus in the Underworld* yesterday, with Katherine Comerford, aged 15, in the foreground. The 12 girls are pupils from the Arts Educational School in Chiswick, west London. The canon opera, produced by David Pountney, opens on Wednesday at The London Coliseum (Photograph: Chris Harris).

# More solicitors may sit as judges

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

More solicitors could become crown court judges under a new selection system being discussed between the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Law Society.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, is keen to increase the number of appointments to the judiciary from among the 47,000 practising solicitors in England and Wales which he sees as a large untapped source of judicial material.

There is a shortage of judges, particularly crown court judges. At present there are only 35 solicitors among 390 crown court judges and only some 34 solicitor recorders and 68 solicitor assistant recorders.

The Lord Chancellor is concerned that many solicitors do not realize judicial appointments are open to them or they apply too late in life.

But solicitors cannot be considered for the High Court bench as this is barred by statute.

There is a constantly growing need for more judges: tribunal work is growing and there are 300 full-time and

more than 1,000 part-time tribunal posts alone at this level.

One option is to set up a large network of local review committees who would compile regular reports on candidates who might be suitable as assistant recorders, tribunal chairmen or stipendiaries and send these to the Lord Chancellor.

These "data-gathering" committees would probably consist of judges, stipendiary magistrates and registrars and local solicitors.

In that way the Lord Chancellor, who would retain the power of appointment, would have much better first-hand information drawn from lawyers and judges on the ground rather than the present haphazard system.

Details of the selection scheme are likely to be published in the early summer.

Mr Andrew Lockley, director of legal practice at the Law Society, who has been pressing for more solicitors to be appointed to the judiciary, said he was greatly encouraged by moves to improve procedures.

# Denning criticizes Moonies decision

By Staff Reporters

Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, and the parents of a dead woman who once belonged to the "Moonies" both yesterday condemned the Attorney General's decision to drop High Court proceedings to deprive the cult of its charitable status.

Lord Denning said the justification for the decision by Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, announced in the Commons on Wednesday, was "erroneous and based on 'no legal authority at all'". He thought it would encourage other religious cults to register as charities and so gain tax relief.

He added that the matter was so important that it ought to have been taken to the House of Lords to get the law authoritatively stated.

Already the decision to drop the proceedings, started in 1984, has been met with criticism among MPs and Lord Denning said it would also give rise to concern among lawyers.

The parents of Sonia Martin, found hanged by a Devon roadside last December, also condemned the government move.

Until she was found near East Budleigh, Devon, eight days before Christmas, Miss Martin, aged 25, was to have been a witness for the Government. She was a cult member before being "rescued" by her family four years ago.

However, her parents are split over allegations in the Commons by Mr David Wilshire, Conservative MP for Spelthorne, that their daughter had been murdered.

Mrs Anthea Martin, from Falmouth, Cornwall, said: "If he says it outside the privilege of the House of Commons, I will sue him for libel. Sonia committed suicide. There is no doubt about that. This was her third attempt and she did it because she never properly got over the Moonies."

Mr David Martin, the dead woman's father who lives in Altrincham, Cheshire, supported the murder theory. "I have been to see the site where Sonia was found and do not believe she could have committed suicide."

"I shall be writing to the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary. I think the court action should have gone ahead."

# Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

# Irish trip for winner of £4,000

Yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000 was won by Mrs Patricia Reavis, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

Mrs Reavis, a general practitioner's manager, plans to use the money to visit relatives this summer in Ireland. She will also give some to her son, John, aged 23, who also plays Portfolio.

"This came as a big surprise", she said. "I have been playing from the beginning. I've always been near, but never right on it."

She is a regular reader of *The Times* and enjoys singing in her church choir and sailing.

# Head quits after kick by boy, 7

By Sarah Thompson  
Education Reporter

A head teacher in Brent, north-west London, has resigned after she was kicked by a boy aged seven.

Mrs Patricia Jones, head of Wembley Manor School, suffered bruised ribs after being kicked last autumn.

She is taking up the headship of Cromer Road Junior and Infants School in the neighbouring Conservative borough of Barnet in April.

One in four Brent schoolchildren is now at schools outside the borough, whose left wing Labour council has been criticized for its hard-line anti-racist policy.

It is to come under the scrutiny of a study ordered by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Last month Miss Maureen McGoldrick, the head accused by the council of making a "racist remark", began work at another Barnet school after leaving Brent, which suspended her for several months in 1986 after allegations made by a council employee.

Both Mrs Jones and Brent council emphasize that her departure is for "personal reasons" and has no connection with the kicking incident.

Three weeks after the incident the boy was suspended after warnings to his parents. He is under a council exclusion order, against which his mother is appealing.

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# Labour outraged at Baker's abolition of Ilea

The abolition of the Inner London Education Authority (Ilea) from April 1, 1990, was announced in the Commons by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science to Labour shouts of "Fascism" and "sheer vandalism".

Mr Baker was cheered by Conservatives, however, when he announced the winding up and the transfer of education responsibilities to local councils.

He said that Ilea's spending was "profligate and its service poor. London's children and their parents had a right to something better and the Government's proposals set out the basis for a more cost-effective and responsive education service for inner London."

The Government had consistently maintained that a single education authority for inner London could be justified only if that authority gave the children and students of inner London a good education service at an acceptable cost. Ilea had patently not done that.

Between 1981 and 1986 its spending increased from about £700 million to more than £1 billion, while in the same period its pupil numbers had fallen by 15 per cent.

It now spent 52 per cent a pupil more than the outer London boroughs, 45 per cent more than Manchester, and 83 per cent more than Birmingham, cities with problems comparable to those of London.

"This increase in expenditure has in no way been reflected in improved pupil performance, which remains disappointingly low. There is now an urgent need for change."

Ilea's failure is partly a failure of political will but it is also a product of its unmanageable size. Its administration is cumbersome, excessively costly and too distant from its clients.

The Government had decided that the way to improve standards of education in London and to bring costs under control was to enable each inner London borough to become the local education authority for its area. Its proposals were incorporated in the Education Reform Bill.

Three boroughs had already stated their intention to apply for local education authority status. Other boroughs were known to be considering similar action (Labour shouts of "Name them").

Mr Baker continued: But as this positive response to our proposals has emerged there has been a growing view that our objectives would be better achieved by a single, orderly transfer of education functions in inner London.

The Government has reviewed these developments and has concluded that the time is now right to carry through the logic of its proposals in the interests of better standards and of orderly progress.

We therefore propose to table amendments to the Education Reform Bill, while it is before the standing committee, to wind up Ilea and to secure the transfer of education responsibilities to local councils from April 1, 1990.

The arrangements for transferring functions would follow closely those established at the time of the abolition of the Greater London Council.

A staff commission would be established to facilitate the process of staff transfer. All Ilea teaching and non-teaching staff working at individual schools and colleges would transfer by order to the employment of the council concerned. Where appropriate, detriment or redundancy compensation would be available on the terms applying at the time of the abolition of the GLC.

The Government proposed that each local council should be required to publish in 1989 a basis for local consultation a development plan, setting out the way in which it proposed to organize the transfer of responsibilities and the service it would propose to run.

The Government would issue statutory guidance on the subjects to be covered by such development plans, which would provide the basis for property and staff transfer orders.

"I recognize that some co-operation will be needed between inner London councils for the maintenance of certain aspects of education provision", he said to Labour protests.

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"I recognize that some co-operation will be needed between inner London councils for the maintenance of certain aspects of education provision", he said to Labour protests.

"I hope that in most cases such co-operation will be secured through voluntary arrangements, these might in some circumstances need to take the form of joint education committees, requiring my approval under existing powers. Where it is necessary, there are also powers under the Education Act, 1944, to enable me to require groups of boroughs to establish joint education committees in respect of particular functions."

The Government proposes to maintain rigorous pressure to control Ilea's expenditure over the next two years. We attach paramount importance to improving the quality of education received by inner London's children.

## No mandate for this decision, Tories are told

The Government had no mandate for its decision to abolish Ilea, Mr Jack Straw, chief Opposition spokesman on education and science, said.

Mr Straw said that the decision which "had nothing to do with concern for and commitment to the needs of London's children and everything to do with squalid manoeuvring inside the Tory Party."

He said that Mr Baker had been misled by two political hooligans in the Commons, Mr Michael Heseltine, proposer of the amendment to the Education Reform Bill to abolish Ilea.

"This humiliating reversal of the position he was taking just eight weeks ago has nothing whatever to do with concern for or commitment to the needs of London's children and everything to do with squalid manoeuvring for position inside the Conservative Party, with children - my children - being used as pawns."

The Cabinet had concluded just three years ago that a unitary education service offered the best way of meeting the needs of children all over London because there was so much movement across borough boundaries.

"Has this movement suddenly stopped in the last eight weeks? What exactly has changed since the second reading in September, when the Secretary of State described his proposals to retain Ilea as offering London's children a better deal?"

"The Government has no mandate for this willful and spiteful act that will bring anxiety, uncertainty and instability to London's education services at a time when what it most needs is stability."

The proposal had not been included in the Conservative general election manifesto either because it was considered and rejected or because it was seen as so ludicrous and vindictive that it was not considered at all.

It would be a constitutional outrage and an abuse of Commons procedure for the measure to be introduced other than through a new Bill.

The Secretary of State had criticized Ilea's costs of £2,000 a head for secondary schools, but made no criticism of the £4,335 a head so far as pupils at Westminster School were concerned.

London's head teachers had said that Mr Baker would be dismantling a system that provided the stability and hope that was lacking in so many homes in London and his proposals would spell chaos for the capital's schools.

"This disreputable announce-

ment will be treated with anger and contempt by parents, teachers, governors - by all who put the needs of London's children above the sordid internal politics of the Conservative Party."

Mr Baker said that more time would have to be found to debate his announcement.

"The principle on which we went to the country in June and which underlies my educational reforms is the dispersal of responsibility. And so it was with Ilea. We had wanted to pass responsibility to the London boroughs. We made that absolutely clear during the election campaign."

The response by the London boroughs had led the Government to question the policy of devolution. If that had not happened the present debate would simply have been taking place in a year's time.

Many reviews of Ilea had taken place in recent years but had not led to any improvement



## Gummer stands up for cuckoospits

The Government was going to great trouble to encourage farming practices that would protect the environment, Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said.

Sir Geoffrey Flansburg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) had said that in East Anglia, for example, there would be real advantages for birds, bees, butterflies and the cuckoospit, and a general enhancing of the countryside, if something were to be done about the hedgerows.

Mr Gummer said that three of the environmentally sensitive areas declared were the Suffolk river valleys, the Brecklands and the Broadlands. They had been recently designated and in all of them the Government was going to great trouble to ensure that farming practices carried out there would encourage all that Mr Flansburg wanted, including the cuckoospit.

Earlier, when urged to do something about the "terrible" use of chemicals in farming, the minister said that people were enjoying the most varied diet for generations because of the sensible use of modern farming techniques.

He said that he would not want to denigrate the many important farming advances that had been made possible by benign chemicals. At the same time, important advances had been made for the first time in encouraging organic farming research.

His department had studied the environmental effects of less intensive farming in a wide range of research projects and would be closely monitoring the effects of supporting traditional farming practices in the environmentally sensitive areas.

He was replying to Mr Frank Haynes (Ashfield, Lab), who said that the de-

intensifying of farming practices would certainly help the nation, particularly as far as pollution was concerned.

"It will mean a massive reduction in those wicked and terrible chemicals on the land and in the environment and in the air we breathe. I believe in the birds and the bees, the squirrels and the rabbits."

Mr Ronald Davies, for the Opposition, said that if the minister really favoured less intensive farming, why was his ministry considering proposals to pay farmers £100 an acre to do nothing?

Mr Gummer said that the Government was not going to pay anything to farmers to do nothing. What it was going to do was to pay farmers to look after the land in a way that was environmentally satisfactory, and which was not going to produce crops, that could not be sold, at additional cost to the taxpayer.

It was shocking that officers as senior as Mr Gummer should be held to have attempted to pervert the course of justice and nothing less than the resignation of the chief constable would satisfy national and international concerns about the Shalker-Sampson case, Mr Alexander Carr-Saunders, Liberal spokesman on legal affairs, said during Prime Minister's questions.

Mrs Thatcher said that she had nothing to add to what had already been said by the Attorney General (Sir Patrick Mayhew) on this subject. She also reminded the House that the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mr Tom King) had said that the next step was for the findings of the inquiry to be considered in the context of possible disciplinary proceedings. He had promised a statement concerning procedures and control within the RUC.

## Victory for pub hours Bill

The Bill to extend the opening hours of public houses was given a third reading in the Commons in the early hours of Thursday by 256 votes to 133 - Government majority, 223.

The Licensing Bill will allow public houses in England and Wales to remain open during the week-day afternoons, which is already the case in Scotland, and increases "drinking-up time" from 10 to 20 minutes.

The Bill now goes to the Lords.

Earlier, during the report stage, a clause was added to the Bill to remove the word "knowingly" from the offence of supplying alcohol to someone under 18 years of age but to provide licences with new defences to the charge.

The Government new clause was carried by 289 votes to 47 - majority, 242. An Opposition amendment putting the onus on the licensee to show that he had good reason to believe that his customer was over 18 was rejected by 291 votes to 66 - Government majority, 225.

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## RUC chief 'should go'

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## Ford strike criticized

A strike by Ford workers imperilled nearly the jobs of the strikers but also those of thousands of people who worked in companies which manufactured components (Canac and Burntwood, C) said during Prime Minister's questions.

If the present wave of strikes continued, it would damage Britain's newly and hard-won reputation as having "kicked the strike habit".

Mrs Thatcher agreed that strikes put in jeopardy the jobs of those who were on strike as well as the jobs of those who supplied components and other materials. The component workers should blame the Ford workers.

## Charity law problems

It was easy to analyse problems in charity law highlighted by the Attorney General's statement on the Unification Church - the Moonies - but very difficult to draft something suitable to put them right, Mrs Thatcher said.

She was replying to Mr Lord Warrington of St Albans, who asked for her urgent support for a review of the law on charitable status.

Mrs Thatcher said that she had read the Attorney's statement and knew that some people had been disappointed. It was very difficult to get a precise definition of charity suitable to the circumstances.

## Pig farmers

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, promised to press hard in the EEC for a new agreement to help improve the position of British pig farmers.

## Peer's apology causes dispute

Lord Monckswell (Lab) made an apology in the House of Lords for admitting the young women who later dropped by ropes from a side gallery into the chamber after Tuesday's vote approving clause 28, which prohibits local councils from promoting homosexuality.

At the start of business, he said: "With the permission of the House I would like to make a short personal statement in connection with the demonstration that occurred last Tuesday."

On that day, four young ladies were admitted to the visitors' gallery in my name.

Until today I was under the impression that they were not involved in the demonstration. However, I have been advised by young ladies who were involved.

On the basis of that advice I tender my apologies to Black Rod (Sir John Gifford) and his staff for any difficulties they had to contend with as a result of my actions.

While I neither condemn nor condone the demonstration, I believe it was inevitable considering the vote on clause 28 - (cries of shame).

I conclude with the words of a 12-year-old girl yesterday in connection with clause 28 - that it is just what the Germans did to the Jews - (renewed cries of shame).

After question time, Lord Diamond, leader of the SDP peers, asked Lord Monckswell, leader of the Lords, whether he had it in mind to seek the guidance of the procedures committee on any necessary clarification of the Lords' normal procedures in regard to personal statements.

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## Labour too interested in strikes

The Labour Party seemed more interested in having strikes than in the welfare of patients, Mrs Margaret Thatcher told MPs during a noisy session of Prime Minister's questions that was dominated by the subject of the strike of nurses and other National Health Service workers.

She again condemned the strikers and praised those nurses who had remained at their posts.

Mr John Fraser (Norwood, Lab) said that those, like himself, who had been with the nurses on their demonstrations knew that they had the vast, visible and vocal support of the public.

The health service was not serving the nation and what was at fault was not the Prime Minister's statistics but her judgement of the country's needs.

Mrs Thatcher said that Conservatives and patients as a whole were very grateful to the nurses who had stayed carrying on their duty to look after their patients.

Something like 400 operations had been postponed because of what had happened.

It was astonishing that some nurses should go on strike while the pay review body was considering their pay.

That review body had been created, like those for the Armed Forces and the police, because nurses could not go on strike.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of

## PRIME MINISTER

the Opposition, said that after the statements by the Prime Minister to the Treasury (Mr John Major) and other statements and counter-statements by the Government there was considerable confusion about the Government's policy on nurses pay - (Conservative shouts of "No").

In an effort to clear up the confusion, would she see that the Government's submission to the pay review board was published?

Mrs Thatcher: No. It was not customary for that submission to be published.

It was customary for each side to the submission to the pay review board to make its way out.

There was no confusion about government policy in setting up the pay review body and the way they had dealt with all these matters of fact.

Mr Kinnock asked if it was commonplace for the presidents of the royal colleges and the British Medical Association to have to take the kind of steps that they had?

Nor was it commonplace for nurses to be driven into the protest action they had been taking.

## Conservatives and patients as a whole are very grateful to nurses who have not gone on strike

The nurses' staff side had made their pay submissions public weeks ago. Why would the Prime Minister not make it clear where the Government stood?

Was the report in the *Nursing Times* saying that the Government had submitted that the total resources for health in 1988-89 would be expected to cover all pay or prices increases, unless or unless?

Mr Thatcher said that the pay review board would consider proposals put to them from both sides, including the re-structuring proposals that have been agreed.

In the time of the last Labour Government there had not been a pay review body for nurses. It was important to point out the way in which that Government had dealt with review body proposals (Labour protests).

In 1976-77, the then Government had implemented the doctors and dentists pay review in full.

However, when in 1976 inflation was 16.5 per cent the review body recommended 2.2 per cent, but protested to the Government about the restraint on the pay settlement

## Labourers' poll tax problem

The National Farmers Union and the unions representing farm workers are seeking clarification from the inland Revenue over the position of farm workers under the Government's proposed new community charge. Mr Donald Thompson, Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said.

Mr Peter Pike (Burnley, Lab) said that many poorly paid farm workers had their rates paid for them as part of the provision of their accommodation on the farm.

Under the new system, they would have to pay the community charge and, if that amount was made up in pay by their employers, they would have to pay income tax on the amount involved, leaving them heavily penalized.

Mr Brian Wilson (Cunningham North, Lab) said that it was an absurdity that farm labourers on a wage counted in tens rather than hundreds of pounds would have to pay the same amount in community charge as the richest landowner or wealthiest farmer.

Mr William Walker (Tayside North, C) said that farmers in his constituency had calculated that what their workers would lose on the springs they would gain on the roundabouts, through compensatory pay increases.

## MPs limit refused

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

An attempt by an all-party group of MPs to freeze the House of Commons at its present level of 630 seats was rejected by the Government yesterday.

Over the past 40 years the number of constituencies in Great Britain (excluding Northern Ireland) has crept up by 20 under successive revisions by the Parliamentary Boundary Commissions.

In a report published last year, the home affairs select committee urged the introduction of

## Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Employment Bill, report stage. Motion on Local Government Act (Police and Fire and Civil Defence Authorities) Precepts Limitation Order. Tuesday: Debate on television of House of Commons. Motions on Precept Limitation (Prescribed Maximum) orders for West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside Passenger Transport Authorities. Wednesday: Employment Bill, completion of remaining stages. Motion on the Precept Limitation (Prescribed Maximum) (Inner London Education Authority) Order. Thursday: Debate on the Royal Air Force. Friday: Malicious Communications Bill, Access to Medical Reports Bill, and other back-

## Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Legal Aid Bill, report stage. Second day. Tuesday: Social Security Bill, committee, first day. Wednesday: Debates on accountability of secret services; effect of pseudo-religious cults on family life and young people; EEC committee report on agricultural stabilizers. Thursday: Land Registration Bill, report; Social Security Bill, committee, second day.

## Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Motor Vehicle (Wearing of Kevlar Seats by Children) Bill; Environment and Safety Information Bill, second readings.

مكتبة الامم



## JPs urged to quit over bail for rapist who struck again

An MP yesterday called for the resignation of magistrates who three times freed an alleged rapist on bail, after a court was told the man went on to rape a second time.

Police said that on three occasions they had opposed bail being granted to Stephen Tanner, aged 23, who was already on bail for minor offences when he committed the first rape.

One of the officers involved said: "It is absolutely ludicrous. We can just about understand one mistake — when they bailed him for the first time, but when he breached his bail conditions and showed himself untrustworthy we couldn't believe they could free him again."

Mr Terry Dicks, Conservative MP for Hayes and Harlington, said: "These magistrates have no right to be sitting on the bench and they should do the decent thing and resign."

Mr Alan Jenkins, for the prosecution, told Bristol Crown Court that Tanner, of Bonvilston, near Barry, South Glamorgan, was on bail when he raped a girl aged 16 after he met her at Temple Meads Station, Bristol, last July.

She was on her way home from boarding school in Dorset but he persuaded her to go for a walk.

"On the way back to the station he tripped her up and said: 'I will kill you if you

scream.' He was squeezing her throat and she was petrified. She begged him to stop but he raped her." He left his address in the girl's handbag.

Tanner was arrested at his home and when he appeared before magistrates he was released on bail, despite police objections.

Police later said that Tanner was subsequently arrested for breach of his bail conditions and again for a deception charged — but released on bail on each occasion.

The second attack came just two days after his commitment on the first rape charge. At the crown court, Mr Jenkins said that late on the night of September 24, Tanner, who had moved to Thornbury, Bristol, asked his neighbour to help him deliver a note to a friend whose mother was sick.

The woman, aged 22, drove him from the home he shared with his girl friend to the address but he told her there was no answer.

Mr Jenkins said Tanner got back into the car and then held a knife to her throat. He said: "Don't scream" and ordered her to drive up a layby where he forced the girl into a nearby barn where he raped her.

He then forced her to commit other sexual acts by threatening to cut off her nipples if she did not comply.

Mr Richard Merz, for the defence, said his client would

do anything to make himself socially acceptable.

He said: "He is willing to take medication, go on courses or even have an operation so he could be released back into society and not be a danger to other people."

"He is very remorseful for what he has done."

Mr Justice Paine said he was horrified that Tanner had threatened to cut his victim's nipples off and he sentenced Tanner to five years for the second rape and four years for the first rape, the sentences to run consecutively.

He was also jailed for a total of 18 months for a number of other offences.

Later Mr Dicks said that if the magistrates did not resign he would ask the Lord Chancellor to demand they should.

"Women have a right to expect protection from magistrates and they are not getting it from this lot."

Mr Dicks also called for a change in the law so that rape suspects could not get bail.

Mr Ivan Lawrence, QC, a Conservative MP and chairman of the party's back-bench legal affairs committee, said the idea of changing the law had been looked at and rejected.

"If the man denied the charge when he appeared in court the first time, he is innocent in the eyes of the law."

### 'New wave' union launched

## Search for million members

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Amid the razzamattaz of popping champagne corks, a specially commissioned pop video, balloons and glossy brochures a new 653,000-member trade union was launched yesterday.

The so-called "new wave union" was given a send-off which marked a radical departure from traditional trade union presentation, according to the men behind it, Mr Clive Jenkins and Mr Ken Gill.

Called Manufacturing Science Finance (MSF), the union was born from a merger of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) and the Technical and Supervisory Staffs (TSS).

The former secretaries of the two unions, Mr Jenkins and Mr Gill, are to be joint

general secretaries of the new union, and say their union is the third biggest in the country.

They told a news conference at their offices in Camden Town, north London, that they aim to have a million members, with the recruitment of women a top priority.

Already the union is negotiating mergers with other TUC-affiliated unions and with 12 staff associations in various industries, but Mr Gill assured other unions not involved in merger talks that there would be no poaching.

He said their target was the non-unionized sector of Britain's "sunrise" industries: high technology, electronics, chemicals and pharmaceuticals.

Previously ASTMS and

Tass had competed fiercely for members — or "clienteles" — as Mr Jenkins insisted on calling them — but now all branches have merged into single bargaining units.

MSF will have an annual income of £17 million and assets of £25 million. There will be 200 national and regional offices, plus research, health and safety and administrative staff.

About 79 per cent of the 653,000 current members are men.

Breakdown of membership shows that the union has 70,000 members in insurance and banking; 50,000 in electronics and computing; 32,000 in aerospace; 39,000 in vehicle manufacture; and 43,000 in the National Health Service and universities.

## Suffragette returns to House



Mrs Catherine Griffiths, a suffragette jailed in 1912 for trying to put nails into Lloyd George's seat in the Commons, returned to Westminster yesterday to join in celebrations marking 70 years of votes for women. Mrs Griffiths, aged 102, was joined by Miss Jane Caro and Miss Diana Johnson, both students, and (behind) Miss Emma Nicholson, the Conservative MP for Devon West and Torridge (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance).

### Artificial hearts

## First implant expected within weeks

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The first artificial heart implant operation in Britain is likely to be carried out soon, heralding one of the biggest medical breakthroughs of the next 20 years, the senior surgeon involved said yesterday.

The device could save hundreds of lives and provide a vital alternative to transplanting human hearts, because of the constant shortage of donor organs, Mr Terence Lewis, of The London Hospital, Whitechapel, said.

He and colleagues at the hospital have been collaborating with American researchers on a £30 million project, funded by the US government, to develop the metal heart. They have designed for it a unique lining which will avoid the risk of blood-clot-

ting, a serious problem in other models.

The team is also asking the Department of Health and Social Security to give The London Hospital the status of a heart transplant centre, joining only three other such units in the country.

The pump, made of titanium and called a left ventricular assist device, is intended to support a diseased or damaged heart but not to replace it.

It could be used for some months before being removed when a donor heart became available for transplantation. Many potential transplant patients die before a suitable organ is found.

In some cases, the device could assist a patient's dam-

aged heart to recover, doctors at the hospital believe.

The prototype costs about £60,000 and needs a £20,000 support console. An operation would cost a total of about £100,000 but such costs would be borne by research funding and would fall sharply with increased production, Mr Lewis said.

The pump works on pneumatic power through a tube in the patient's chest. However, because of the risks of infection associated with an externally powered unit, the hope is to develop a battery-powered, fully implantable version.

That would enable patients to walk around with it and even have a shower, Mr Lewis said.

"We are very excited about the whole project. We need to select our first patient very carefully because it will be very traumatic for them and their family", he said.

"We could carry the first operation out in the next couple of months. It is likely to involve someone who has been waiting for some time for a transplant. The tragedy is that many such patients die because of the constant shortage of donor organs."

"If the device proves successful, it is going to be the medical breakthrough of the next 10 or 20 years. It will revolutionize cardiac surgery. The number of people with chronic heart disease who could be helped by this sort of device is enormous."

## Nuclear site leukaemia link doubted

By Our Science Correspondent

An investigation of clusters of childhood leukaemia cases has cast doubts on links between the disease and nuclear establishments.

Evidence published in *The Lancet* today suggests that there are likely to be causes other than radiation, possibly related to pollution.

Researchers using new computerised methods of geographical analysis identified five clusters in the north of England, including a large

group of cases on Tyneside, at least 35 miles from the nearest nuclear installation.

The study involved 853 children under 15 already known to be suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL).

The largest clusters were centred on Seascale, Cumbria, near the Sellafield, formerly Windscale, nuclear plant and on Tyneside.

Smaller clusters centred on Sedburgh in Cumbria,

Whittingham in Northumberland, and south Manchester.

The researchers from Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Manchester universities, say: "This new analytical method has shown us that clusters of leukaemia do occur, but they are not necessarily associated with nuclear establishments."

"Radiation is currently the only known cause of ALL although it must account for only a very small proportion

of cases. The present analysis gives considerable weight to the hypothesis that there are likely to be environmental, perhaps pollution-related, causes of leukaemia other than radiation."

A letter in *The Lancet* from British Nuclear Fuels draws attention to the low ratio of childhood leukaemia near the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston, Berkshire, compared with a non-nuclear area.

## Tories threaten to disrupt guns Bill

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Stringent firearms legislation in the wake of the Hungerford incident faces strong resistance from backbench Conservatives. Senior Tory MPs yesterday made clear they would block its progress unless there was statutory compensation for those who lose their guns.

It also became clear during the opening session of the Firearms Bill's committee stage that while Home Office ministers are prepared to concede the compensation principle, the Treasury is stalling.

Home Office estimates are that the Bill will make illegal between 8,000 and 10,000 self-loading rifles and pump-action shotguns. There are no official estimates of the cost of compensation but it could be at least £10 million.

Every Conservative back-bencher on the committee, including Mr Michael Mair-Wilson, whose Newbury constituency includes Hungerford, denounced the idea of confiscating legally purchased guns without offering compensation. Many of the guns were valuable and most were used for sport.

Mr Jerry Wiggin, chairman

of the Commons agriculture committee, accused the Government of a "knee-jerk reaction" in the wake of the Hungerford tragedy, in which Michael Ryan shot dead 15 people.

Four Tories voted with Labour to defeat the "sittings motion" which allows the committee to begin detailed examination of the Bill. Another Tory, Sir Eldon Griffiths, adviser to the Police Federation, abstained.

The four, most of whom themselves have shotgun certificates, had demanded that Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, undertake to announce the Government's decision on compensation before the committee completed its work so that it could debate the matter and if necessary amend the legislation. They voted against when Mr Hogg refused to give that undertaking.

A second sittings motion was accepted without a vote when Mr Hogg offered to postpone consideration of the Bill's first clause, which deals with confiscation, until all other clauses had been dealt with.

## Fallow land plan may harm wildlife

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Plans to take some farmland out of production to reduce food surpluses may harm rather than benefit wildlife and field sports, countryside groups said yesterday.

The Game Conservancy and the British Field Sports Society expressed strong reservations about the idea of a voluntary "set aside" scheme, under which farmers would be offered subsidies to leave part of their land fallow.

Game Conservancy scientists say that taking 20 per cent of arable land out of production would mean not only a 20 per cent loss of habitat for the wildlife of cereal fields but the remaining 80 per cent being farmed more intensively, with more sprays, heavier cropping and fewer wild plants, butterflies, small mammals, songbirds and game.

The group wants the Government to support the extension of "conservation headlands", strips of land around the edges of fields which are left largely free of pesticides and which provide valuable wildlife habitats.

The British Field Sports Society said that, historically, country sports had flourished

when agricultural production was restricted. However, it feared that without improved incentives farmers would choose to continue and even extend intensive production.

While welcoming the proposal to draw up a code of practice for the management of fallow land, in consultation with the Nature Conservancy Council and the Countryside Commission, the society believed it essential that the main country sports organizations should also be involved.

The improvement of sporting facilities is certain to provide one of the most powerful motives for change, it says.

"Without organized and properly regulated country sports, our stock of game birds, animals, and fish will progressively disappear, whatever the policy intends," the society says.

The Country Landowners Association warned that incentives would have to be at least double the proposed £150 to £200 a hectare (£60 to £80 an acre) if the set-aside scheme was to have any chance of success.

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### Weekend food prices

## EEC makes fresh lamb a good buy

Home-produced lamb prices are lower for the time of year than they have been for five years. According to the Meat and Livestock Commission this is due to deliberate policy designed to even out the availability and price of fresh lamb throughout the year.

Farmers are now encouraged by a subsidy from the EEC to keep lambs longer, risking bad weather and loss of stock, to ensure good supplies in the shop right through the winter. Fortunately this year the weather has been kind.

The average price of whole leg is £1.70 a lb, and whole shoulder 97p. For those in a hurry loin chops at about £2 a lb or best end chops even cheaper could be the answer.

Good meat buys at shops and supermarkets this week are Presto, British pork steaks at £1.52 a lb, and fresh roasting chicken at 64p a lb.

Although gale force winds have affected supplies of fresh fish, particularly

in Scotland and Northern Ireland, somewhat surprisingly many varieties are cheaper than last week. Haddock and plaice are down 5p-6p a lb, cod and herring are up about 3p to an average £2.01 and 89p respectively.

Skate is scarce and more expensive. Coley at about £1.30 a lb is a good buy. Look out for Red Fish, also known as Norway Haddock, at about £1.50 a lb on the bone and £2.25 for fillets.

Shellfish is plentiful and Billingsgate had a consignment of cray fish from Louisiana during the week retailing at about £5 a lb.

Early forced rhubarb is now in full season costing between 35p-55p a lb.

Seville marmalade oranges at 25p-35p a lb are nearing the end of their season. Clementines at 45p-55p a lb will also finish quite soon. Instead try Oranquies from Jamaica at 22p-30p each or share a sweet juicy Ugli fruit at 50p-70p each.

Another newcomer worth noting is the

Babaco from Guernsey at £2.70-£3 each. Apples in good supply are Red Delicious from Canada and America at 35p-55p a lb. Golden Delicious and Granny Smiths from France are at 25p-45p a lb. Pears at 22p-45p, pineapples from 65p-£2.50 and Sharon fruit at 25p-40p each are all best buys.

All home-grown vegetable supplies are good, despite the wet weather, and prices are unchanged. Look out for mange tout from South Africa costing between £1.20 and £1.50 a lb.

Canary Island tomatoes at 70p-90p a lb are not at their best and in short supply after the storms. Cucumbers from the same area have also been affected and are more expensive this week, at 60p-80p each.

There is plenty of good quality celery at 45p-60p a head. Chinese leaves 70p-95p a head and reasonable supplies of iceberg lettuce at 75p-£1. Spring onions are 40p-45p a bunch and English watercress 30p-40p.



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# Just because you're small, it doesn't mean you can't be powerful.

## 1. Mighty Mouse.

If you thought this first section was going to be a regurgitation of that old chestnut about mice terrifying elephants, you can relax. As it happens, elephants do tend to be afraid that rodents might run up their trunks — but it is highly likely that the humble mouse once played a far more significant role in the history of the world.

Various theories have been put forward to explain why the dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago, such as: raids by hunters in flying saucers; a lack of room in Noah's Ark; a lemming-like mass suicide by all species everywhere at the same time; and even 'Paleoweltschmerz' (i.e. the dinosaurs became so disillusioned with their world that they died of sheer boredom).

However, a somewhat more plausible reason for their extinction is that small shrew-like mammals ate their eggs.

Being warm-blooded animals, the 'mice' were able to pursue a nocturnal way of life, whereas the cold-blooded dinosaurs, whose body temperatures depended on the outside environment, could not. The rodents could therefore have devoured their ungarded eggs with impunity, depleting their numbers until they died out completely.

## 2. Tiny tots.

There are many more examples of small but powerful creatures in the modern animal world. In relation to its size, an ordinary house spider can run eight times faster than Ben Johnson. A flea can jump 130 times its own height. An ant can pull a load 300 times its own weight.

Yet perhaps the most impressive example is that of the Falabella horse.

Derived by crossing Shetland ponies with small English Thoroughbreds, Falabellas stand only 24 inches high. However, they run so fast that, over a short distance, they can beat a full-sized racehorse. For their size, they can leap far higher than the leading showjumpers and they are also exceptionally hardy.

These qualities are shared to varying degrees by other miniature breeds. A Shetland has been known to carry a twelve-stone man for forty miles in one day, while a twelve-inch high golden foal recently survived falling down a steep fifteen-foot bank shortly after being born. (Why this foal should then have been called 'Lucky' is a mystery.)

## 3. The lowest of the low.

The twentieth century has certainly had its share of small and belligerent men — Hitler, Mussolini and Alan Ladd to name but three. However, the person who has come the closest to being a twelve-inch ruler is Attila the Hun. He is thought to have been a dwarf.



Also known as 'the scourge of God', Attila was king of the Huns from 434 to 453. For a time he ruled jointly with his elder brother Bleda (who was actually quite a big Bleda by comparison), but he found this rather tiresome and he murdered him in 445.

His hordes then massacred, looted and burned their way across eastern Europe and finally assailed the Roman Empire. He was defeated once — in Gaul in 451 — but he promptly invaded northern Italy and occupied the imperial palace in Milan, where he had all the paintings altered to show the Roman emperor kneeling at his feet instead of vice versa.

Attila died two years later while making love. It is possible that his diminutive stature contributed to his demise — but history unfortunately does not record whether or not he was standing on a box and fell off.

## 4. Le petit caporal.

No one had as great an effect on Europe again until Napoleon Bonaparte came to prominence at the end of the eighteenth century.

In 1795, at the age of 25, he was in charge of the French army of the interior. He then led the French forces in Italy to brilliant victories over the Austrians, became First Consul for life in 1802, set up what was effectively a military dictatorship and had himself crowned Emperor in 1804.

In defeating the Austrians, incidentally, he also defeated the hero of our first section. The Austrian generals became so desperate that they inked a mouse's feet and placed it on a map to see if it would trace out a path to victory. It didn't.

Yet without his wellingtons on, Napoleon was only five feet six inches tall himself. It is true that he looks impressive in our picture, which shows him crossing the Alps in 1800, but this is a highly idealized portrait. (For one thing, he actually crossed on a mule.)

He was certainly very sensitive about his height. On one occasion, he was searching for a book in his library when he finally spotted it on

the top shelf, well out of his reach. The tall Marshal Moncey dutifully stepped forward. "Permit me, sire," he said. "I am higher than Your Majesty." Napoleon was not pleased. "No, Marshal, you are longer," he snapped.

Eventually, of course, Napoleon's reign came to an end, with one of the earliest stages in his downfall being the series of defeats suffered by his fleet at the hands of Lord Nelson — who was only five feet two. No wonder both men wore such large hats.

## 5. We are not very big.

Queen Victoria, sovereign of the United Kingdom from 1837 and Empress of India from 1876, constantly lamented the fact that she was less than five feet tall.

Strangely, her Uncle Leopold seemed to think that she had the power to rectify this if she wished. "I have not been able to ascertain whether you have grown taller lately," he wrote. "I must recommend it strongly."

Victoria did wield considerable political power, however. In 1839, she forced the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Peel, to resign and later dismissed the Foreign Secretary, Lord Palmerston, for committing the unforgivable sin of taking action without consulting her first.

Her close involvement with policy-making and her desire to have her own way sometimes overstepped the proper bounds of a constitutional monarchy, particularly when William Gladstone was Prime Minister.

"Others but herself may submit to his democratic rule, but not the Queen," she wrote after yet another disagreement.

Yet when the longest reign in British history finally came to an end in 1901, the shortest monarch had restored both dignity and popularity to a crown whose future had looked decidedly precarious at the time of her accession.

"Will she be happy in heaven?" wondered a member of the royal household. "I don't know," replied Edward VII. "She will have to walk behind the angels — and she won't like that."

## 6. Not short of words.

Even Queen Victoria was taller than the eighteenth-century poet Alexander Pope. He was only four feet six inches tall as a result of tuberculosis of the bone and a severely-curved spine.

Despite these handicaps, he dominated the London literary scene for almost thirty years — partly on the strength of his sheer talent (his fame was assured at the age of 23 with his 'Essay on Criticism' (1711)), and partly through his stinging attacks on his contemporaries which earned him the nickname 'The Wicked Wasp of Twickenham'.

His verbal assault on Lord Hervey in the 'Epistle to Dr Arbuthnot' (1735) is a fine example:

"Yet let me flap this bug with gilded wings,  
This painted child of dirt, that stinks and stings..."

He clearly relished the power that such scathing wit brought him:

"Yes, I am proud; and must be proud, to see  
Men not afraid of God afraid of me."

Another writer of the day, William Broome, did suggest that it was Pope's size that stopped many people from fighting back:

"His littleness is his protection; no man shoots a wren." But others probably realised that the Wasp was at his most wicked when anyone attacked him, as illustrated by the following composition addressed to a lady who had dared to mock his size:



"You know where you did despise  
(To-day) my little Eyes,  
Little Legs, and little Thighs,  
And some things, of little Size,  
You know where.  
You, tis true, have fine black eyes,  
Taper Legs and tempting Thighs,  
Yet what more than all we prize  
Is a Thing of little Size,  
You know where."

## 7. The Prime Miniature.

Two centuries later, David Lloyd George — seen here pointing out his missing inches — was using a similar sharpness with words to achieve power.

It has been argued that he was too obsessed with power for its own sake — "He did not care in which direction the car was travelling, so long as he remained in the driver's seat" (Lord Beaverbrook) — yet the facts remain that he led Britain to victory in the First World War and laid the foundations of the modern welfare state.

Like Pope, Lloyd George once had occasion to cut down someone who made a remark about his size. The chairman of a meeting introduced him thus: "I had expected to find Mr Lloyd George a big man in every sense, but you see for yourselves he is quite small in stature." "In North Wales," came the reply, "we measure a man from his chin up. You evidently measure from his chin down"

Margot Asquith said of him that "he could not see a belt without hitting below it". This was presumably because he could not see much higher.

## 8. The pocket battleship of the desert.

Another small Welshman also played a leading role in the Great War, namely T. E. Lawrence or 'Lawrence of Arabia' (He actually measured less than five feet six inches, but this tends to be obscured by the fact that the tall Peter O'Toole played him in the David Lean film.)

After joining the Arab army in 1916, the archaeological scholar soon became its chief organising and motivating force. He ran a guerrilla operation against the Turks, blowing up numerous bridges and trains, and in 1917 he captured Aqaba after a 600-mile march.

Further successful actions followed, and when Lawrence returned to Britain as a colonel in 1918, he was awarded the DSO and the Order of the Bath — though he declined both honours as a protest against the breaking of promises made to the Arabs. He then became a close friend and adviser of Winston Churchill, who described him as "one of the greatest beings of our time".

It should be noted, however, that Lawrence's character was full of contradictions — one of which was the need to subject himself to the power of others on occasions. For this reason, he went on to join the lowly ranks of the RAF and the Royal Tank Corps under assumed names — and also paid an admirer to whip him regularly on the buttocks.

## 9. The Mighty Atom.

Astonishingly, there was a third small but powerful Welshman who came to prominence at this time. Jimmy Wilde was only five feet two and weighed just seven stone, yet he was one of the greatest fighters the boxing world has ever known.

He began his career in a fairground booth, where he once performed the incredible feat of knocking over 23 opponents within four hours. All 700 of his challengers in those early days were far heavier than him, but all succumbed to his phenomenal speed and punching power.

Even when he turned professional, Wilde was still conceding as much as two stone to his opponents — but he kept on flattening them. His fame spread, and soon he was known everywhere not only as 'The Mighty Atom', but also as 'The Ghost with the Hammer in his Hands'.

In 1916, at the age of 23, he won the world flyweight title, which he then retained for seven years and four months — a record unequalled to this day.

It is a further mark of Wilde's greatness that he is the only non-American to be rated No. 1 in the 'All-time Greats' lists of 'Ring' magazine — and in 1959 he was elected to the American Hall of Fame.

## 10. The half-pint PC with the ten-gallon memory.

The Japanese have always been good at producing small things, such as miniature trees and Japanese children, and the latest example of their skill is the Epson PC AX2.

No other personal computer packs as much power into as small a space. It would cover only about two-thirds of this page — yet it boasts a 640K random access memory, 20 megabytes of hard disk storage and a 1.2Mb floppy disk drive.

Furthermore, it runs faster than a Falabella, with processing speeds of 10 and 8MHz.

The PC AX2 is fully PC- and AT-compatible. It comes ready to work with any type of monitor and graphics software that you choose, and it can be expanded almost without limit — so there is no danger of it ever becoming extinct.

As you would expect of an Epson, it is so reliable that it could almost be compared to Queen Victoria for longevity.

Yet for all this, the PC AX2 costs only £1495 (RRP exc. VAT), which certainly won't leave you short.

For more information, either: write to Epson (UK) Limited, Freeport, Birmingham B37 5BR; call up Prestel \*280#; or ring 0800 289622 free of charge. We think you'll find that the PC AX2 can't be beaten — unlike Lawrence of Arabia, of course...



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## WORLD ROUNDUP

## US urges Sicilian defence for F-16s

Rome — The United States yesterday made its strongest attempt yet to overcome Italian doubts about the stationing of F-16 fighter-bombers in Sicily (Roger Boyes writes). Mr Frank Carlucci, the US Defence Secretary, found in Rome yesterday that he was preaching to the converted in the form of Signor Valerio Zanone, his Italian counterpart.

Signor Zanone told the parliamentary defence committee this week that the American fighter-bombers, which have been ordered out of Spain within the next three years, should come to Italy because otherwise NATO's southern flank would be seriously weakened. But not everyone is in agreement with Signor Zanone. Signor Bettino Craxi, leader of the Socialist Party, believes it would be unacceptable to replace US cruise missiles at the Nato base in Comiso, Sicily, with bombers which could carry nuclear weapons.

## Ethiopia aid change

The Government is expected to reconsider its policy of giving very little development aid to Ethiopia, after signs that Addis Ababa is changing its agricultural policies (Andrew McEwen writes). Development aid worth £270 million from the World Bank and the 12 EEC countries, has been held back waiting for reforms to policies which give farmers no incentive to produce more than their own needs. Famine aid has never depended on reform.

Signs that Western pressure was beginning to work first emerged in Brussels. European Commission sources said yesterday that Addis Ababa had agreed to give its farmers a 10 per cent increase in farm prices, and to allow them to sell part of their harvest on the open market.

## President Blawie accused

Belgrade — A historic claim to have come across further documentation on President Waldheim's wartime activities in the archives in the Yugoslav southern province of Kosovo and in Albania (Dessa Trevisan writes).

Dr Halil Bajric, director of the state archives of Kosovo, said his research led him to the conclusion that President Waldheim had witnessed the execution of 104 resistance fighters, Albanians as well as Yugoslavs, on 23 October 1944.

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## Malay leader jailed



Kuala Lumpur (AFP) — The Malaysian High Court yesterday ruled that the United Malays Organisation led by the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, was an illegal society, effectively nullifying party polls held last April.

The ruling ended a legal battle by 11 supporters of Dr Mahathir's arch rival, Tunku Tan Sri Razaleigh Hamzah, for a court order for fresh polls. Dr Mahathir had narrowly beaten off a challenge by Tunku Razaleigh for the organization's presidency.

## Minister ousted

Ottawa — The Conservative Government has been shaken by the sudden, forced resignation of a cabinet minister because of a personal loan thought to be worth £130,000 from a friend (John Best writes).

Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, dismissed Mr Michel Côté, Minister of Supplies and Services, on Tuesday night for not reporting the loan, as required by conflict of interest rules. The official announcement made no mention of the amounts involved.

## Sioux on the warpath

Pine Ridge (Reuters) — The Sioux Indians named their first war chief in more than a century yesterday and charged him to fight for "fair and just compensation... for the illegal confiscation of the Black Hills (of South Dakota) by the US Government some 110 years ago".

Mr Phillip Stevens, a successful businessman and great-grandson of Chief Standing Bear, said he was honoured to "pick up the battle lance of justice".

## French reds in bed fight off boredom

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

If one thing fascinates the French more than sex, it is opinion polls — or possibly vice versa. So how better to grab an audience than with an exhaustive survey of what the nation gets up to between the sheets?

That is what the lively weekly magazine *VSD* has done — with results that are hardly flattering for the enthusiastically-promoted image (in France, that is) of the French as the world's outstanding practitioners of *l'amour*.

According to its poll, almost 25 per cent of the population admits to succumbing, "sometimes" or even "often", to a profound sense of boredom while making love. Among women, that figure rises to nearly 33 per cent.

In the true spirit of discovery, the 807 people questioned (all over the age of 18) were asked their political persuasion. The result could do untold damage to the prospects of the two parties at opposing ends of France's political spectrum in the forthcoming presidential election.

The Communists headed the list, with 29 per cent admitting they sometimes had other things on their mind when making love. Only one when making love, whose right hand man, M. Jean-Marie Le Pen, misses few opportunities to strip off and display his manly torso.

In descending order, there followed the right-of-centre Union for French Democracy (25 per cent) and the Socialists (24 per cent). Not counting ecologists, Breton nationalists and flat-earthers, that leaves M. Jacques Chirac's conservative RPR party carrying the romantic reputation of France — though with 18 per cent there is clearly scope for improvement.

It was the Communists who first reacted to *VSD's* findings, in the person of their veteran leader, M. Georges Marchais. Nobody would call him a jolly fellow, but he coped pretty well when the inevitable question arose during a television interview yesterday.

"Take it from me, I'm not among those Frenchmen who find it boring," he assured viewers. In fact, declared M. Marchais, he had just suggested to his colleagues that the Communists ought to issue an invitation, saying "gentlemen, send your women over to us".

Apparently, M. Marchais was advised: "Not now Georges, not right in the middle of an election campaign."

The *VSD* poll also sought to establish whether any particular section of the public enjoyed itself less than the rest. It turns out that the "intellectual professions" easily top the boredom scale. For the record, *agriculteurs* seem to have most fun.

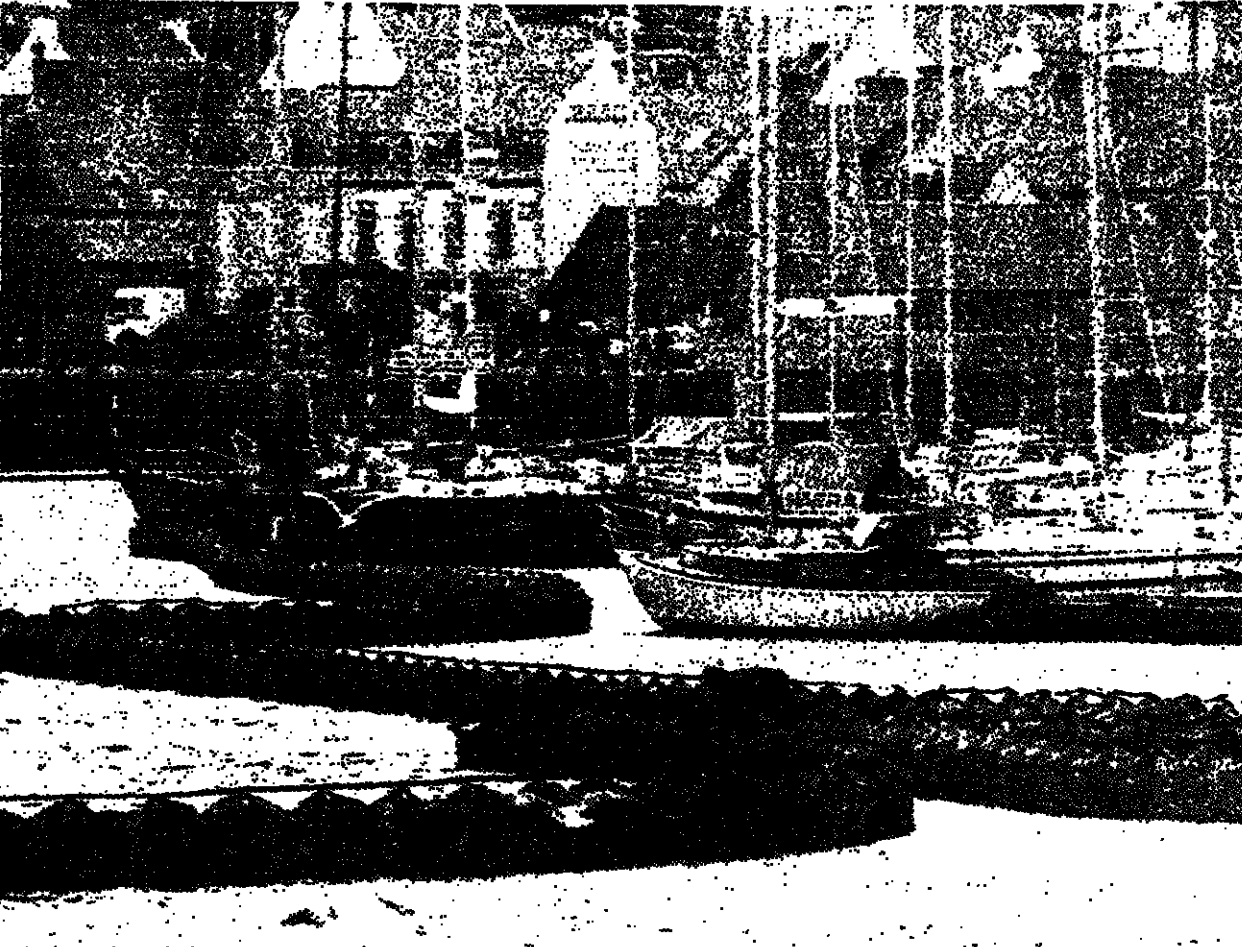
## Brittany suffers third oil spill disaster

Floating barriers surrounding the harbour at Saint Brieuc yesterday in an attempt to keep out oil from the Italian tanker, *Amazone*. Brittany is again facing the consequences of a serious oil spill — fouled beaches, flocks of dead birds, with oil covering the sea as far as the eye can see (Philip Jacobson writes).

Up to 3,000 tonnes of oil has been lost from the tanker, and with high winds breaking up the huge slicks French coast-guard helicopters are losing the battle to keep track of the movements of the "black sea".

For the inhabitants of the rugged coast of north Finistère this is a particularly sickening blow, coming soon after the decision of a US court to award far smaller damages than anticipated against the owners of the *Amoco Cadiz*, the tanker responsible for a catastrophic spillage in 1978. After that came another disaster with the *Olympic Brerly*.

"Everywhere you look it is disgusting," said Colonel Celzard, chief of civil defence for the region. "Once again, we've been caught." All they can do now is work like demons to control the worst of the damage and pray that the beaches will be cleaned up in time for the tourist season.



## Contras defiant despite vote to cut off military aid

## Arias hails US Congress decision

From Martha Honey, San José

President Arias of Costa Rica hailed the US Congress rejection of more military aid for the Contras as a victory for the Central American peace plan.

Señor Arias, author of the accord for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize, said: "This is a demonstration of confidence and support for the Central American peace plan. I think now more than ever that Central Americans have to show to the world that dialogue and negotiations carry greater weight than armed struggle."

Since the peace plan was ratified by the five Central American heads of state last August, President Arias has been working, largely behind the scenes, to win support in the US Congress for an end to Contra aid.

The plan requires an end to outside support for insurgent groups and Señor Arias had said that more Contra aid would "kill" the peace plan.

While Señor Arias's officials credit the peace plan, not the war, with forcing the Sandinistas to carry out democratic reforms and open ceasefire talks, the Contras argue that continued military pressure is necessary to force significant reforms.

Señor Adolfo Calero, a leader of the US-backed Nicaraguan Resistance, vowed in Washington to keep fighting — money or no money. Another Contra leader, Señor Alfonso

Robelo, said here: "We believe military pressure aids the political solution. For the resistance, the political and the military struggles will continue."

Privately, Contra officials say that they have sufficient US military supplies for the near future. They say they will attend the next round of face-to-face ceasefire talks with the Sandinistas in Guatemala next week, but they do not expect them to be successful.

Other Nicaraguan dissidents, however, say they now believe they have no option but to seek a negotiated settlement. An official of the rebel Indian coalition, which has just completed its first round of peace talks with the Nicaraguan Government, said: "We must push for a peaceful

solution now. We've had seven years of firepower, now we must try another route."

Costa Rican officials said they intend to push towards full implementation of the plan before the next Central American summit this month.

● LONDON: The Labour Party described the defeat of President Reagan's aid programme as a "good day for democracy" (Our Foreign Staff writes).

The Foreign Office said it had no comment on the vote, but repeated that it remained committed to a peaceful settlement of conflicts in Central America.

In Madrid the Spanish Government, which has expressed willingness to help monitor Central American peace plans, welcomed the vote.

"We believe this goes in the direction marked by the peace plan that Spain supports," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Opposition politicians in Bonn were also pleased by the decision.

Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, said the decision was "a victory for reason".

Leading article, page 13

## Nicaraguan defector to receive big CIA payoff

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Señor Roger Miranda, the Nicaraguan defector who revealed seven years of intimate secrets about the Sandinista Government, is to receive a large payoff from the Central Intelligence Agency and will be secretly resettled.

Señor Miranda, aged 35, who was a top aide to Señor Humberto Ortega, Nicaragua's Defence Minister, co-operated with the State Department in a barrage of public appearances, press and television interviews designed to discredit the Sandinistas. He defected while accompanying his boss on an official visit to Mexico last October.

According to one unconfirmed account, he will receive \$800,000 (£450,000) from the CIA, made up of rewards, resettlement allowances, and a one-year contract for unspecified work. That is far more than valuable defectors normally receive, judging by reports of past arrangements that have sometimes involved lifetime stipends.

The payments to Señor Miranda will be drawn from the President's contingency fund. They are subject to confirmation by the intelligence committees of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, and the figures could change, although probably not substantially.

Administration officials insist that Señor Miranda was not offered money in advance of his defection. Nor were the payments used as bait to get

him to cooperate so fully in public appearances. One official was quoted yesterday by *The Washington Post* as saying that Señor Miranda did not know before January 5, several weeks after he began his round of interviews, how much he would receive.

Another Central American dissident, Señor José Blandon, a former close aide to General Manuel Antonio Noriega of Panama, is proving to be an embarrassment to the White House. He alleged in an interview with *The New York Times* that his former boss cooperated in a complex scheme with the White House to discredit Nicaragua.

Under the alleged scheme, hatched in 1986, the general would arrange an East bloc arms shipment that could then be captured in El Salvador and



Señor Blandon: Disclosures embarrassing White House.

falsely linked to the Nicaraguan Government as "proof" that it was aiding left-wing subversives in neighbouring countries.

Señor Blandon, who is under round-the-clock protection in the US, said the deal was put together by Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, then a White House aide, who was a central figure in the Iran-Contra affair. Señor Blandon has told US investigators that General Noriega had a close relationship with Mr William Casey, the late director of the CIA.

The closeness of the general's relationship with important figures in the US might help to explain why the Reagan Administration has until recently refused to denounce him, despite his autocratic rule and allegations against him of drug dealing, the transfer of sensitive American technology to Cuba, and arms dealing.

General Noriega is expected to be indicted by a Grand Jury in Miami today for his alleged part in the multi-billion dollar Latin American drugs trade. Clearly he will never be brought to the US for trial, but the action will send a further chill through US-Panamanian relations.

Señor Blandon also claimed that General Noriega and Colonel North planned secretly in 1985 to train Contras in Panama, in return for which the US would help Panama with its debt crisis.

## Wary Sandinistas say Washington still poses threat

From David Gollob, Managua

"The war is not over," said the *Radio Sandino* journalist as he reported live from Washington on the Reagan administration's failure to win congressional approval for a new Contra aid package. The official *Voice of Nicaragua* warned: "We must remain on our guard."

The Sandinista Government, which had waged an intense diplomatic campaign to sway the vote, maintained an official silence. However, the cautious response of the state-run media was seen here as an indication of how the Government was likely to react.

Headlines in yesterday's edition of *Barricada*, the official Sandinista Party newspaper, warned that the Reagan administration was considering "new forms of aggression" and that the "hidden danger" had not disappeared.

Ordinary Nicaraguans reacted with relief or indifference, rather than jubilation. Several said they were unaware of the congressional decision.

Señor Mauricio Diaz, leader of the centre-left Popular Social Christian Party, said: "People I have been speaking to had mixed reactions. Some believe the Sandinistas won't comply with the (Central American) peace plan without military pressure, while others say economic pressures are enough."

Señor Diaz, who described the result as "an important contribution to the peace plan," expressed fears that Sandinista "extremists" might be tempted to adopt a tougher line with the opposition.

"It is time for the Government to continue on the path of democratic reform," he said. "It is time to take new steps, such as a full and immediate amnesty (for political prisoners). The Government should also resume negotiations with the civilian opposition."

Leaders of Nicaragua's 14 opposition parties were to march through Managua to deliver the Government their revised proposal for constitutional reform. Negotiations with the opposition, mandated by the peace plan, broke down in December after the Government rejected an ultimatum to make changes.

An amnesty for about 2,000 people jailed on charges of counter-revolutionary activities was passed in the National Assembly in November. However, implementation was tied to an end to US support for the Contras. President Ortega subsequently announced prisoners would be released in the event of a ceasefire with the Contras or, failing that, if the United States or a non-Central American country agreed to give them asylum.

## UN ban on arms for Iran closer

From Charles Bremner New York

The world community will be ordered to cease supplying weapons, parts, and training to Iran for at least two years if the United Nations Security Council approves an embargo drafted by Britain that is now being considered by the four other permanent members.

The text was produced by Sir Crispin Tickell, Britain's Ambassador to the UN, more than six months after the Soviet Union, France, China, Britain and the United States reached unprecedented unanimity to order a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, diplomatic sources said.

While the Western powers have favoured an embargo to force Iran to comply with the Soviet Union and China have been asking for time to allow Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, to persuade Teheran to agree to a ceasefire with which Iraq has already said it will comply.

Moscow has for some time been thought unlikely to back an embargo because of its interests in keeping links open with Iran, its neighbour. But, according to one diplomat, the Russians are now ready to consider enforcing an embargo because "they realize, like the rest of us, that we are being played around with".

Moscow is still trying to persuade the other Council members to agree to its proposal for a UN naval force to police the Gulf — a plan that has met little enthusiasm from the Western powers.

The four other powers are not expected to have their reactions to the embargo text until late at the earliest, the sources said. If they agree, it will then be put to the 10 non-

Royal Navy helicopters operating in the Gulf have been fitted with electronic systems to counter Stinger and Silkworm missiles used by Iran, *Jane's Defence Weekly* said yesterday (AP reports). The Royal Marines also have acquired for trials and training a Boghammer speedboat similar to the raiding craft used by Iranian Revolutionary Guards against oil tankers plying the waterway, the magazine said.

permanent Council members. The draft text incorporates ideas put to Sir Crispin by all four during intensive consultations over the past month. The sources said. Britain has been co-ordinating action on the Gulf resolution, passed last July.

In particular, the text names Iran as the object of the embargo — a move favoured by the US and France — rather than simply referring to the party failing to comply with the ceasefire, as originally proposed by Britain.

Iran acquires its material from Europe, Israel, China, Libya and the Soviet Union, according to industry sources. While an embargo would undoubtedly hurt its war effort, Teheran would still be able to find some supplies — at a price — from private dealers and rogue states, they said.

Iraq has said it will accept a truce as soon as Iran complies, but diplomats were dismayed by a letter from Baghdad to Mr Pérez de Cuellar last week which laid down conditions on the sequence of events after a halt to the fighting.

● DUBAI: A freighter set ablaze in error by Iranian gunboats sank yesterday and is now a navigation hazard near a busy Gulf seaport off the United Arab Emirates (Reuters reports).

Shipping sources said the 15,241-ton Panama-flag *Mare* sank at anchor 17 miles west of Dubai. She was being towed to the port from 60 miles north of Bahrain, where Iranian gunboats attacked her on Saturday. The gunboats rescued a 22-man crew when they discovered the vessel was trading out of the Iranian port of Bushehr.

## Iowa caucuses will be won or lost on television

From Michael Binyon Des Moines, Iowa

For the US Democratic presidential candidates, television may make all the difference to the outcome of the Iowa caucuses, now only three days away.

It looks, indeed, as if already has for Congressman Richard Gephardt, who has raced into the lead with a message trimmed down to two bedrock issues for Iowans — support for farming and a threat of retaliation against unfair trade competition from overseas.

Mr Gephardt has taken to the air with three advertisements that portray him as a fighter for issues that are not universally popular. They also cleverly mix his Washington-insider image with an anti-establishment pitch.

A two-minute biographical advertisement, complete with flags, balloons and patriotic paraphernalia, moves quickly to his admission that some people, presumably official Washington, do not like his proposals. "I'm willing to take the heat. Because if we can't fight for workers, for farmers, for

seniors, the strength and soul of our party, then what really are we all about?"

Mr Gephardt pulled off a coup last week by bringing 42 congressional colleagues over to Iowa — including such influential figures as Mr Thomas Foley, the House majority leader — and filming them at a rally in Gephardt campaign hats.

Governor Michael Dukakis, has also unveiled television commercials that are as slick and skillful as his campaign. They are intended, by adding warmth and passion, to change what is becoming a rather dangerous reputation for cool, cerebral detachment. In picking an issue of well-timed topicality, he makes much of his deep opposition to aid for the Contras. "We're going to end the killing," he says.

Therefore, it was naturally to Mr Dukakis that the local television station turned for immediate comment after the congressional rejection of the Reagan aid package. Mr Dukakis has managed to convey intensity without tying himself to specifics. In one advertisement, angelic toddlers frolic in front of a

large flag as a toy piano plays *America* softly on the track.

The third Democrat who desperately needs the extra push television can give is Senator Paul Simon, whose advertising position is slipping dangerously. His advertisements dwell on his career as a crusading small-town newspaper editor rooting out corruption in Illinois, and cultivate his image as an old-fashioned Democrat who is concerned with social justice.

But Mr Simon is being strongly advised to get tougher and to run anti-Gephardt spots in an attempt to regain the lead. His media men even outlined the theme, comparing Mr Gephardt's present stance with his vote for the 1980 grain embargo and the 1981 Reagan tax cut. So far Mr Simon has refused, insisting that he does not like negative advertising.

Governor Bruce Babbitt, who first began using paid television spots last spring, continues still with performances far staid and more polished than his television debating appearances. But, although his straight talking to the camera and scenes of meetings with voters

reinforce the "honesty" message, time is running short to translate this into vote-getting.

The other Democrats have done little here. Mr Gary Hart, who relied heavily on paid commercials in 1984, does not have the money. The Rev Jesse Jackson has not even hired a media consultant, and Senator Albert Gore is harbouring his time and money for the South.

The Republican race has already been reduced to a contest of two, and both Vice-President George Bush and Senator Robert Dole have used their advertising as a way of putting the knife into each other. Mr Bush emphasizes his career, as he does in so many situations. Mr Dole emphasizes his legislative record and is trying to tell Iowa that he is "one of us". Mr Bush, although quick to take advantage of his televised handshake with Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, during the Washington summit, still seems somewhat unfocused about what he is trying to say.

Others, such as Governor Pete Du Pont, and the Rev Pat Robertson, have saved their rather splashy

advertisements for New Hampshire. And General Alexander Haig, who has little money and almost no support, is also confining his shoe-string campaign, emphasizing leadership and strength, to New Hampshire.

Of course, all candidates prefer "free television" — straight news coverage — to paid commercials. But, in such a big field, the chance to get individual messages across in news programmes is small. Most candidates are now also making longer video cassettes, to be lent or sold to political enthusiasts.

Voters are suspicious of campaign advertising, and Iowa is especially scornful of negative advertising. But, so crucial are the final few days, television might make all the difference.

Five of the six Republicans and four of the seven Democrats have already spent something like \$1 million (about £655,000) producing and airing commercials in 1987. The political blizzard on the screen is intended to counter the icy blizzards on the ground, and get the caucusgoers out into the vital meetings. It looks like money well spent.



## Soviet panel demands more rights for Tartars

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A state commission set up last year after unprecedented demonstrations by 300 Crimean Tartars in Red Square has hinted at a new deal for the aggrieved Soviet minority who were deported from their homeland by Stalin in 1944 on charges of collaborating with the Nazis.

The commission, headed by President Gromyko, has called for the removal of any unjustified obstacles to their residence rights, and for their social and cultural needs to be met more fully by language instruction, special television and radio programmes, and publications.

Many Crimean Tartars were settled after the Second World War in the central Asian republic of Uzbekistan (where they staged a number of protests last month) and in parts of the Ukraine. They were politically rehabilitated in 1967, but barred from returning to the Crimea.

"The commission examined the implementation of measures directed at rectifying employment issues for Crimean Tartars and removing unjustified obstacles to their changing their place of residence," Tass said.

It also reported that the commission had noted a resolution by the Council of Ministers defining the terms for residence in resort regions, which include the Crimea, more clearly.

Last July's 24-hour demon-

stration in Red Square by Tartars demanding to return to their homeland embarrassed the Kremlin and prompted new regulations prohibiting public gatherings in central Moscow without permits. The Tartars only stopped their demonstration after Mr Gromyko agreed to discuss their grievances.

Western experts said last night that the new measures appeared to indicate a willingness to be more flexible in permitting some Tartars to return to the Crimea. Soviet sources said that deeper consideration was now being given to the sensitive nationalities issue in many parts of the Soviet Union.

Militant leaders of the Crimean Tartars are seeking the restoration of the autonomous republic by the Black Sea, where they lived before the mass deportation. Last October the official press reported that police had mounted an operation to prevent demonstrators marching from Tamm in southern Russia to Simferopol in the Crimean peninsula.

After those protests, which Western observers said were on a much larger scale than the authorities sent most Crimean Tartars back to their place of residence under a law preventing people from staying for long periods in places where they are not registered as residents.

## Flurry of diplomacy as quest for Middle East peace intensifies



Mr Shehadeh Abu Anni, left, mayor of the Nuseirat refugee camp, begging Mr Shamir for help during his tour yesterday.

## Shamir tours camps and pledges help

Naseirat (AP) — Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, toured two refugee camps yesterday and promised to try to improve living conditions for 250,000 Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip.

His convoy hurried through the Nuseirat and Beach camps in the Gaza Strip, which has been wracked by eight weeks of violent Palestinian protests against Israel's 20-year occupation.

He is the first Israeli Prime Minister to visit a Gaza refugee camp.

At Nuseirat, Mr Shamir spoke briefly to Mr Shehadeh al-Banah in the camp's main street, where puddles of mud and sewage collected between the tin-roofed houses.

"The man told me about the

need to improve the conditions of life, and on this question we agree with (the Arab residents)," Mr Shamir said. "We must do something to improve the quality of life. It will make easier the further stages of (peace) negotiations."

"I begged Mr Shamir to help us. That's all," Mr al-Banah said. "He promised he would help and give money for housing conditions in the camps."

Mr Shamir said he would take about \$2 billion (£1.1 billion) and a 10-year effort to rehouse the 250,000 refugees in Gaza and the 95,000 in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Mr Shamir earlier made a three-minute drive through Beach camp near Gaza. Hundreds of men, women and children looked on.

At a news conference later, Mr Shamir defended the Army's beating of rioters, a policy that has been sharply criticized abroad. "There are times and situations when you cannot do otherwise," he said. "I think all means taken by the Army have been positive and necessary."

Mr Shamir said he saw no connection between the continuing riots and the latest US peace initiative. He said elections in the occupied territories, reportedly part of a US Middle East peace plan, are "not now on the agenda".

● JERUSALEM: Evidence that dum-dum bullets and a new kind of gas which causes abortions have been used in quelling riots has been collected by a fact-finding mission from the Parliamentary

Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation, which ended its visit here yesterday (Jan Murray writes).

Mr Michael Lanigan, leader of the Irish Senate and chief spokesman for the mission, said these were two "disturbing factors" they had found.

The new kind of gas, he said, was made in the United States and appeared to have been in use since the beginning of the year. "It has more than a sickening effect — it causes hallucinations and it has caused miscarriages in young women in the early period of gestation. There are possible long-term effects but we do not know what the composition of the gas is."

The allegations have been categorically denied by Israeli military spokesmen.

## Vatican plays role in search for settlement

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Vatican is taking an active role in the search for a Middle East settlement and an end to the fighting on the West Bank, diplomatic sources disclosed yesterday.

Mr Farouk Khaddumi, regarded as the "foreign minister" of the Palestine Liberation Organization yesterday held talks with Monsignor Achille Silvestrini, a key member of the Vatican's policy staff, while President Mubarak of Egypt will be received today by the Pope.

Rome is now at the crossroads of much Middle East diplomacy, though an agreement on a form of negotiations is as elusive as ever. King Hussein of Jordan was received by the Pope some days ago and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, is expected next week.

How much of this flurry is on the initiative of the Vatican, and how much is an Italian or European effort, is unclear. The Vatican, having tried without much success to mediate in Lebanon, is now wary of Middle East diplomacy, but there are signs that the Holy See is consulting closely with the Italian Government and the US.

Yesterday Mr Khaddumi was dismissive about renewed American attempts to mediate in the Middle East. "The Americans do not want peace," he told reporters, "but the Palestinians will continue to fight with any means available, including weapons, until the end of the occupation."

The US Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East affairs, Mr Richard Murphy, is due to leave for the Middle East, possibly today, taking with him a plan that envisages US-mediated, indirect talks between Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Palestinian leaders and any other Arab countries willing to join the process. The aim of this plan would be to elect a self-governing authority in the Israeli-occupied territory by September, with full scale negotiations starting in December.

However, the European Community favours an international conference involving all the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (including the Soviet Union). This is also, broadly speaking, the Arab position.

Israel favours direct but bilateral talks with the Arab states. And President Mubarak has proposed a six-

month ceasefire in the West Bank while an international conference is set up. But Jordan, the Americans and the PLO are not enthusiastic about this.

President Mubarak feels that Vatican support for an international conference would cement the already close connections between the European and Arab policies. King Hussein of Jordan said in Paris on Wednesday that he was "very satisfied with the European position".

The King will address a meeting of European Foreign Ministers in Bonn on Monday where the gap between the EEC and US position should be glaringly exposed.

● WASHINGTON: Mr Murphy, the State Department's senior Middle East expert, will visit Saudi Arabia, Syria and Israel on his Middle East tour, but for security reasons the State Department spokesman would not give any details (Molins Ali writes).

Syria, which remains strongly critical of Wash-

ington's Middle East policies, has been included in Mr Murphy's exploratory talks, because Washington considers Damascus to be one of the "key actors" in the peace process.

The spokesman said that the Reagan Administration's objective was early face-to-face negotiations to resolve long-standing problems between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

● GENEVA: The Soviet Union yesterday attacked Israel for what it described as a campaign of terror and repression against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip (Reuters reports).

Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, the Soviet Ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, also called on Israel to withdraw from the territories and participate in an international peace conference on the Middle East.

## Seeds of conflict in Japan paddies

From David Watts, Tokyo

The paddy fields that carpet every inch of land up to the distant, snow-covered mountains hide the seeds of one of Japan's most intractable problems.

The short-grained rice costs eight times as much to grow in these tiny, patchwork plots as in California. Moreover the US is keen to export its rice to Japan.

In a country reputed for its industries it is surprising how

● Land used for rice growing is urgently needed for other purposes ●

much land is given over to rice, producing about 30 per cent more than the country needs despite government-funded programmes to get people to switch to other crops.

Land badly needed to give the Japanese a decent place to live is locked in rice crops. More available land would ease soaring land prices, especially in cities like Tokyo, where rice and vegetable plots abound on land that would otherwise be a lucrative source of taxation.

Rice could be imported for a fraction of the price, easing Japan's trade problems with other countries and allowing the Japanese to pay sensible prices for their food. But such a liberalization of the rice market is unthinkable for most Japanese.

Japan's acceptance of a ruling by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade over the liberalization of 10 out of 12 agricultural items last Tuesday has brought the country closer to yielding to US pressure on the rice market.

To many economists, planners and ordinary city-dwellers, the logic is as clear. Japan needs cheaper raw materials. But rice is an emotional issue that can quickly become confrontational in a country where the principle of free trade often means that Japan does the selling and everyone else the buying.

Twice in the past eight years, the Diet (parliament) has passed resolutions against the import of rice. Opening the

latest session, the Prime Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, reiterated his intention not to liberalize the market. But like every other Prime Minister since 1960, he is from a rural prefecture and knows full well that his Liberal Democratic Party is heavily dependent on the farming vote. One rural vote is worth many times an urban one.

The rice lobby is made up of 120 LDP members and most other party members could be relied on to resist any change.

Like many other farmers, Mr Masaei Endo, whose farm is 90 minutes by express train from Tokyo, is spending much of the quiet January-February period, when the paddies lie fallow, brooding about the future of the land his family has tilled for nine generations. To city-dwellers, his situation might seem idyllic. He has more space in his living-room alone than many Tokyo families have in total. But Mr Endo, aged 40, a handsome, soft-spoken man, has been to California and seen the challenge of American farming. He did not like what he saw.

"I was staggered. The farms there are 10 times the size of those around here. So just thinking of the cost of production there is no comparison."

Like many of his countrymen, he believes that liberalization would mean

● Free trade often means Japan does the selling while everyone else buys ●

swamping the market with American rice which Washington would then use as a tool to manipulate Japan. They might first supply it at 10,000 yen (about £46) a tonne and then say we want 30,000 yen."

Japan already imports more food than any other developed country and is 32 percent self-sufficient. Memories of the brief embargo on key soyabean imports from the United States and the West's first-thing of Japan's 11 imports before the Second World War remain keen.

The combination of political muscle and emotional commitment to the land is likely to be a difficult one to overcome.

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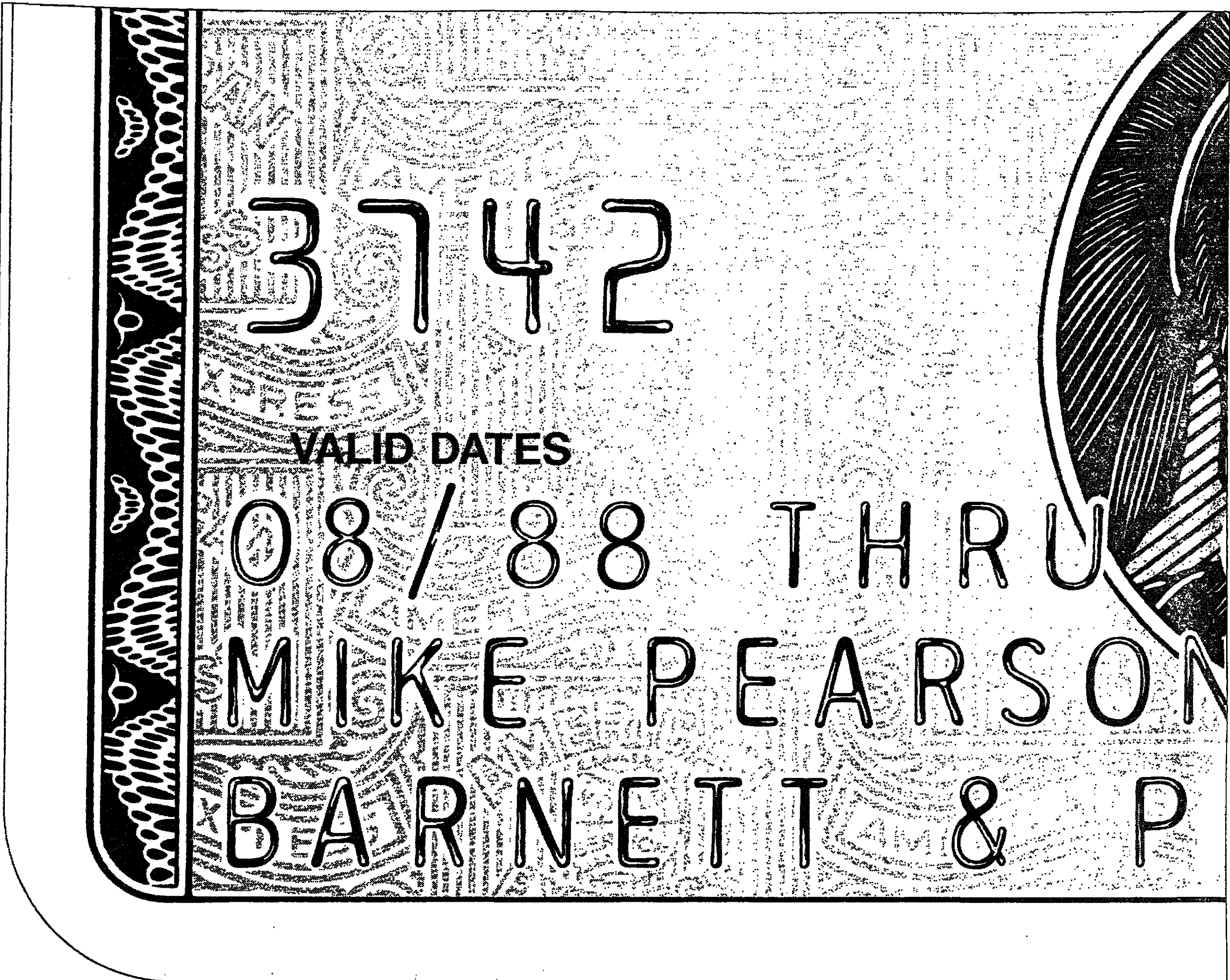
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## Army seizes 20 top rebel leaders in Manila raids

Manila (Reuters) — Soldiers captured 20 top rebel leaders in a series of raids in the Philippines capital yesterday, scoring their first big victory against communist insurgents since President Aquino came to power in 1986.

General Renato de Villa, the head of the armed forces, said that among the 19 men and one woman detained were several members of the Central Committee of the banned Communist Party who had prices on their heads.

The rebel leaders included Mr Tomas Dominado, a senior member of the Central Committee, and two Roman Catholic priests who had helped organize the communist movement in the Visayas region.

General de Villa said six suspected rebel hideouts in and around Manila were raided, including a suburban house used as a hospital for wounded rebel hitmen. "In

one house modern radio equipment and a computer-assisted communication system were found," he added.

The communists have been fighting the Government since 1969 and now operate in nearly all provinces. They mobilize large forces in the countryside and operate small killer squads in cities.

The hit squads, called "Sparrows" because of their swift attacks, have killed more than 50 soldiers and policemen in Manila since last year.

● Cardinal's accusation: Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Archbishop of Manila, yesterday accused human rights groups of being infiltrated by communist insurgents and giving large amounts of money to guerrillas (Humphrey Hawley writes from Manila).

His statement was immediately contradicted by a senior clergyman on the central island of Negros, Bishop Antonio Fortich, who said he

trusted the reports from his local human rights group and described as "simplistic" accusations that anyone who sided with the poor was a communist sympathizer.

Cardinal Sin has thrown into confusion the human rights movement, whose members include dozens of priests and nuns. Speaking to foreign journalists, he dismissed reports that the military and civilian vigilante groups were responsible for increasing human rights violations. "These allegations are not well-founded," he said, adding that several groups were funded by foreign organizations which wanted to downgrade the "new government of our republic."

He said that one Roman Catholic social welfare group, the National Secretariat for Social Action, had been deeply infiltrated and its funds were being channelled to the insurgents. "This money was being

used to buy weapons to develop and strengthen the New People's Army," he said. Funds for the insurgents came from European groups, he claimed, although he was unable to name any.

Cardinal Sin's allegations are in line with those of the Government and military, which have branded many legal left-wing human rights organizations and trade unions as communist fronts. Last week, in a policy speech, President Aquino made it clear that her loyalty lay with the military and not with those organizations alleging violations. "All accusations of a deliberate disregard for human rights have been shown up to be total lies," she said.

However, diplomatic observers say that although the human rights situation improved shortly after President Aquino came to power, reports of violations are increasing.

## Duchess on the move



The Duchess of York, demonstrating that her pregnancy will not interfere with skiing, testing the course at Méribel in France where the Combined Services Winter Sports Association (CWSA) finals started yesterday. The Duchess, the best skier in the Royal Family, and pa-

tron of the CWSA, was on the Manduit run, one of the hardest pistes in the French Alps. It was later announced that she had resigned from her job as an editor with BCK Graphics of Geneva, to devote more time to royal duties. Sport, Page 32

## Thai plane shot down as clashes escalate

Bangkok (Reuters) — Laoan forces shot down a Thai jet fighter as border clashes intensified yesterday.

The Thai Foreign Minister, Mr Siddhi Savetsila, directly implicated Vietnam in the conflict. He said: "Firing of missiles needs experience. There is no other third country in Laos. Vietnam has troops in Laos."

Military sources said Thai troops had retaken two disputed hills and were advancing on a third.

## Bhopal delay

Bhopal (Reuters) — Union Carbide's former chairman, Mr Warren Anderson, and other company executives failed to answer homicide charges relating to the leak of poisonous gas here. A detective said he did not know if summonses sent via Interpol had been served.

## Crime pays

San Francisco (Reuters) — A teenager who stole a bus was awarded \$150,000 (£85,000) by a jury on a claim that his civil rights were violated when a chasing policeman shot him.

## Envoy defects

Stockholm (AP) — Mr Marek Lewicki, second secretary at the Polish Embassy, has defected and asked for asylum for himself and his wife.

## Eastwood exit

Carmel, California (Reuters) — Clint Eastwood, two years after becoming America's most famous mayor, said he would not seek a second term.

## New governor

Delhi (AP) — India's High Commissioner in Britain, Mr P.C. Alexander, has been appointed governor of the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

## Italian coalition on brink of collapse

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Italian Government, driven into a corner by rebel back-benchers, is expected to collapse at the weekend because of an ungainly budget Bill that has soured parliamentary affairs for more than three months.

Political analysts said yesterday that the latest defeat for Signor Giovanni Goria, the Prime Minister, had sounded the death knell of the Government. On Wednesday night a Bill that set out health spending priorities for 1988 was defeated by four votes. The voting was secret and the defeat was clearly aided by defectors in Signor Goria's Christian Democratic Party.

Signor Goria has had to fight for every element of the budget, inch by inch like an

infantryman with a heavy pack and mud on his boots. The original compromise between the five parties of the coalition, worked out over the summer, was soon unravelled as each party sought to make additional claims.

The Liberals withdrew from the Government but were later coaxed back in, while the Communists, assisted by Christian Democrat defectors, doubled the allocation for old-age pensions.

Signor Goria has been forced to push the budget through with a series of confidence votes because these are open and party discipline can be imposed.

If the plotting against him snatches of Machiavelli, the parliamentary theatre is rem-

iniscent of the forces of Fian-dello: neo-Fascists have staged a sit-in, and on Wednesday night whole Articles of the health-spending Bill seemed to get lost in the turmoil. The venerable Communist, Signora Nilde Iotti, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, was close to despair.

When the voting went against Signor Goria he rushed out of the chamber to see President Cossiga. They agreed that he would continue to fight his way through the budget, put all its components to a final vote, and then submit his resignation if he failed. Signor Cossiga could then search for an alternative and, if necessary, bring back Signor Goria with a slightly changed coalition.

A visiting American recently asked how Signor Goria, now 44 but rapidly ageing, can have made so many enemies after only six largely innocuous months in office. The answer is that the current feuding has almost nothing to do with Signor Goria.

One theory is that a faction of the Christian Democrats is unhappy about the idea of the current chairman, Signor Ciriaco de Mita, being re-elected at the spring party congress.

The aim, then, would be to force Signor Goria out as Prime Minister and install Signor de Mita before the congress — making it difficult for him to become party chairman again.

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## Letter from Quito

## Coup talk rife in an oasis of calm

Rumours of impending military coups regularly sweep through Latin American capitals, and they are certainly rife in Quito today as Ecuadorians ask themselves whether the generals will allow the protracted and suddenly delicate process of choosing their next President to continue. Yet here such rumours do not generate the same forebodings.

Indeed, with their love of puns Ecuadorians speak not of *dictaduras* — dictatorships — but *dictablandas*. In Spanish *dura* means variously tough, strong, cruel — in short, all the infamous traits of the classic Latin American military regime. But Ecuador under military rule was always bland, as Ecuadorians are wont to point out with a certain pride.

"In Ecuador's armed forces there is not the cruelty that exists elsewhere... There was never any torture under the last military regime," says Oswaldo Guayasamin, the renowned artist and a man very much of the political left. He offers an interesting theory that the continent's cruellest military dictators "tend to have German or Italian surnames like Banzer or Galtieri, but it's a different matter if they're called Gutiérrez, Solórzano or Chaves" (all solid bona fide Castellano surnames).

Ecuador's military was last in power from 1972 to 1979. The 1970s of course was the decade of the generals in Latin America and a bloody era it was, with stories of terror, torture, murder and disappearances emanating from supposedly more advanced, civilized and "European" nations such as Argentina, Uruguay and Chile.

But there were no such stories from poor, underdeveloped, predominantly indigenous Ecuador, whose generals were to lead the march back to barracks of the region's military forces.

They did so with a certain style, too. "Quite without precedent in Latin America," they offered the electorate a choice of two possible constitutions at a referendum in 1978, so smoothing the way to the return to democracy," said Señor Santiago Jervis, the quiet-spoken editor of the Quito daily, *El Comercio*, who recalls with gratitude that the press was never harassed by the military.

As his paternal surname indicates, he is of direct, if distant, English ancestry. There are many more in Quito's telephone directory — Milngorth, Winter, Cartwright, Hall, among others, double-barrelled with Spanish surnames. These names bear witness to how, at the end of their campaigns in the wars of independence (including Ecuador's), many members of the legendary British Legion, recruited for Simon Bolívar's cause from soldiers back from the Napoleonic Wars, put down roots in this beautiful and gentle land.

Tucked away on the north-

western corner of the South American continent, Ecuador has a deserved reputation as an oasis of tranquillity. But just why this is so nobody really knows.

"Despite grave inequalities between rich and poor, there is not the appalling poverty here that you will find in Peru," ventures Señor Jervis. "Our Indians were always a passive people, they never indulged in bloody religious sacrifices like the Incas, who conquered them only 60 years before the Spanish conquistadores arrived."

Novelist Alfredo Diez Canseco has compared his country's fate to that of Poland — torn apart by her neighbours. In the last century Ecuador lost great chunks of territory to Peru, Colombia and Brazil, and no longer even has a frontier with the latter.

It lost more to Peru in 1941 and the border dispute with its southern neighbour flared again in a brief war as recently as 1981.

Ecuador's laudable record on human rights has been slightly dented under the

authoritarian government of President León Febres Cordero.

There have been allegations of rough police treatment of detained criminals and members of the tiny guerrilla group "Alfaro Vive — Carajo" (Alfaro was a turn-of-the-century radical President; *carajo* is an oath which in this context might be translated as "damn it").

"Alfaro Vive" has links to Peru's savage Sendero Luminoso subversive group and Colombian insurgents backed by that country's cocaine barons. Ecuadorians speak with horror of the violence raging among their immediate neighbours, the continent's two most turbulent countries.

But even Ecuador's tranquillity is now threatened — by a rabble-rousing fascist called Señor Abdala Bucaram, whose emergence as a finalist in the second round of the presidential election on May 8 has sent shock tremors through a nation prone to earthquakes. His success has been attributed to protest votes against inflation and unemployment under the Febres Administration. The military has made it known that they are on the alert, which may be no bad thing.

Geoffrey Matthews



## SPECTRUM

## The heroes the world forgot



Next week Kurt Waldheim (left), the beleaguered President of Austria and former Secretary General of the United Nations, will hear the conclusions of six historians who have been investigating his war record and allegations that he was aware of war

crimes. What the historians will not have solved is the mystery of six British commandos who were last seen alive in the German Army intelligence headquarters where Lt Waldheim worked. But this week, after talking to relatives of the men and discovering new documentary evidence, Tom Bower can throw more light on the fate of the six heroes even the Government wanted to forget

New evidence has emerged this week which deepens the mystery about the link between President Kurt Waldheim of Austria and the fate of seven British servicemen who were captured by German forces while on a secret mission in the Greek Dodecanese in April 1944. Six of the men disappeared and were almost certainly executed by German secret police.

Until recently, British government ministers and officials in Whitehall have steadfastly insisted that they were completely ignorant about the events which followed the group's capture. Allegations by Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for Cambridge, and the World Jewish Congress, that Waldheim was connected to their fate were rebuffed by officials who pleaded a lack of information.

Yet this week *The Times* has established that in 1978 Foreign Office officials in London ordered the destruction of internal files containing a post-war British investigation into the disappearance of the men. The Foreign Office files concerned the death of Sub-Lieutenant Allan Tuckey of the Royal Navy who was at the helm of the small caïque in which the raiding party was travelling around the island of Alimnia.

However, one Foreign Office letter from file CG 2608/184 has survived. Dated November 2 1950 and addressed to Tuckey's step-father, it shows that British investigators had determined that the 21-year-old officer was last seen alive in April 1944 at the headquarters of the intelligence section of the German Army Group E housed outside Salonika, Greece.

At the time Waldheim was serving in the headquarters as the third ranking intelligence officer in the 1c/AC (intelligence/counter-intelligence) section. The letter states that Tuckey and five other British servicemen "were handed over to representatives of Lt Colonel Warnstorff", who was Waldheim's immediate superior.

There can be little doubt that the British investigators would have listed the two officers in Warnstorff's staff who were his "representatives", namely Lt Helmut Poliza, the counter-intelligence officer, and Waldheim himself. When the files were destroyed Waldheim was the Secretary General of the United Nations.

In a letter in October 1986 to Robert Rhodes James, Waldheim denied that he was involved in the handling of captured commandos. Subsequent revelations from cap-

tured German documents seem to contradict Waldheim's plea of innocence. The Foreign Office's destruction of the 1950 files was not an isolated act since, with one exception, more than 20 other Foreign Office and Admiralty files between 1945 and 1950 concerning Tuckey's fate were also destroyed.

Whether intentionally or innocently, the Foreign Office officials had approved the disappearance of the only contemporary investigation which might have established a link between Waldheim and Tuckey. Pressed throughout this week by *The Times*, Foreign Office officials have been unable to explain the destruction other than as consistent with "clearing the huge amount of paperwork".

Yet fortuitously, and probably by accident, not all the Foreign Office files were destroyed. Last week at the Public Records Office in Kew, *The Times* discovered the files for 1948 concerning the hunt for Tuckey. They reveal a lengthy and unpleasant saga of official incompetence and outright lack of interest in investigating the cold-blooded murder of brave and patriotic Britons.

The circumstances surrounding the capture of "P" patrol, "S" detachment, No 1 Special Boat Squadron (Middle East) on April 7 1944 are not in dispute. With their headquarters in Beirut and operating under cover from the Turkish mainland, the task of the small SBS groups, who were a mixture of British army and naval personnel supported by Greeks, was to engage the Italian and German occupying forces throughout the eastern Aegean.

"P" patrol under Captain William Blythe of the SAS was ordered to undertake a reconnaissance of Alimnia but was spotted by a German patrol. Without fighting, Blythe surrendered. Seven Britons and three Greeks were taken to the headquarters of General Kleeman on Rhodes, where attempts were made at interrogation.

All of them would have been aware that under the "Commando Order" issued by Hitler on October 18 1942, they faced execution. Nevertheless, their initial treatment was exemplary and after being fed from the general's kitchen, they slept in the night in separate cells.

The following morning, Blythe was flown to Germany to Stalag VIIa in Moosburg, Bavaria, where he was interrogated. His earlier



refusal to speak had collapsed. Without torture, he gave the Germans a detailed description of SBS and SAS operations in the eastern Mediterranean. Despite the Commando Order, the following day he was "playing hockey with the others", Blythe explained after the war.

Meanwhile in St Albans, Tuckey's mother Cecily Clark (she had remarried) had received a telegram informing her that her son was missing. In July a letter arrived from Beirut (dated June 16) with further information: "I am delighted to say that he is a POW. He is very fit and well. We have heard nothing official, but this news is quite reliable".

Cecily Clark was understandably relieved and awaited official confirmation. The source was indeed trustworthy, since Tuckey had been seen by a British informer in Kleeman's headquarters. Yet by autumn 1944, she had still heard nothing and wrote several times to her son's commander, Lt Commander John Campbell in Beirut, who confirmed the earlier letter.

At this stage, Tuckey's step-father, Albert "Boy" Clark, a First World War colonel and a solicitor, took over the quest. Over the following five years it was Clark's persistence which maintained the momentum against officials who seemed keen to forget the fate of his step-son.

Last month Cecily Clark died, still ignorant of the full circumstances of her son's death. Among her papers was her family's correspondence with the Foreign Office and the military. This week her family has allowed *The Times* to examine this correspondence. Among its revelations is the proof of the existence of file 2608 concerning his uncle's fate.

Writing to the Admiralty in February 1945, Clark asked if there were any news of the other five men who had been captured. The reply was negative. Nothing

more was heard until after the end of the war when it was obvious that Tuckey and the others had not survived. Clark was now supported in his campaign by Allan's brother Henry, who ended the war as a major based as an intelligence officer at army HQ in Lubeck, Germany.

On June 17 1945, Henry Tuckey wrote to the British HQ covering Rhodes asking whether Kleeman and his staff officers had been interrogated. The reply "regretted

absence of reports we are forced to the assumption that nothing is being done, and I am sure you will realize that this is a frame of mind which we find intolerable".

Throughout 1946 the family made no progress. While they concentrated on finding the Greek fishermen who had been with Tuckey, they awaited news of locating the Germans formerly based in Rhodes.

For their part, the Army had launched no investigation into the fate of the five soldiers. Colonel David Sutherland, commanding officer of the SAS in the region, was asked this week whether he had launched any investigation to discover the manner of their deaths. "As far as I was concerned they had disappeared and that was it. That was the risk that everyone runs in this sort of operation... I felt no responsibility even though I was the commanding officer".

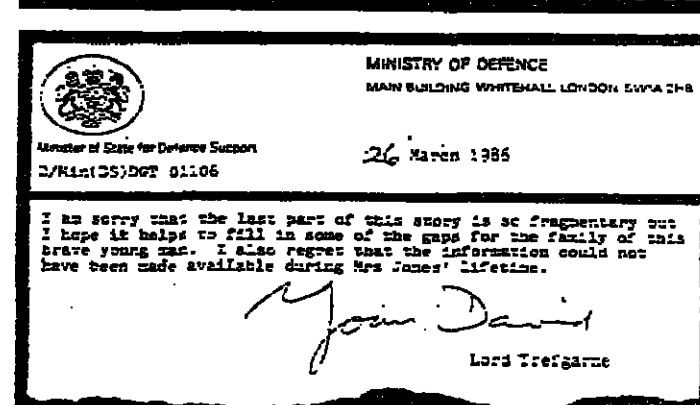
Sutherland's view perfectly reflects the official lack of interest in war crimes during and after the war, even when the victims were British servicemen.

By February 1947 it was reported that the names of the German officers based on Rhodes supplied 16 months earlier were wrong. In October 1947, Clark was told by the Admiralty's Intelligence Division that Tuckey was possibly killed during a fight on a neighbouring island to Alimnia.

"This report is utter nonsense," Clark wrote angrily to the Admiralty. Soon after, both the Admiralty and War Office abandoned the cases and it fell to the war crimes section of the Foreign Office to negotiate between Clark and the now skeleton war crimes investigation unit in Germany.

At the end of 1947, Viebrock and Kleeman had been located and both explained that the six had been transferred two days after their capture to Army Group E on the mainland. The initial feeling at British HQ in Germany was that they were lying but in summer 1948 crucial new evidence had been discovered.

## TOO UNIMPORTANT TO BE TOLD



Missing presumed murdered: Sub-Lt Allan Tuckey (left) and Gunner Raymond Jones — and the 1986 letter from the MoD

Unlike the Tuckeys, the family of Gunner Raymond Jones, one of the commandos travelling on that ill-fated caïque, has only discovered how he died in the last few weeks as a result of investigations into Kurt Waldheim's record by Conservative MP Robert Rhodes James. By then his parents were dead.

At the end of the war, the Jones family were simply told Raymond was "missing presumed dead". Requests for more information were ignored. According to Raymond's brother in law, Sydney Cruxton, who lives in the West Heath area of Birmingham: "No one would tell us anything. I realize my brother in law was a different rank. We were unimportant".

In his anxious search, Cruxton even attended an SAS reunion and asked Colonel David Sutherland, Raymond's commanding officer, for help. "He just told me that Jones was a great man and moved on," Cruxton recalls.

Determined to discover the truth, Cruxton enlisted the help of his local MP, Roger King, who passed on the request to the Ministry of Defence. On March 26 1986, Cruxton received the first formal explanation of how the soldier had died. According to Lord Trefgarne, the Minister of State at the Ministry of Defence, Jones died "in unknown circumstances (although) there was some evidence that prisoners had been lost in attempts to swim to the mainland".

Experts sifting through the remaining German records had discovered three signals (now in the national archives of West Germany and the US) which showed that the six Britons had been transferred to intelligence headquarters in Salonika, where Waldheim worked, and were handed over to the Sicherheitsdienst (the SD) for "special treatment" in accordance with Hitler's Commando Order.

Yet according to the existing file (FO 371/70890) at Kew, the implications are that this evidence was ignored by the military in Germany because the Labour Government, under pressure from the military, had ordered a halt to all war crimes investigations and trials after September 1 1948.

Foreign Office message to Germany nevertheless stated: "It is clearly necessary to do everything possible to find out what happened to Lieutenant Tuckey... It is clearly impossible to let this inquiry peter out in this feeble way". In St Albans, Clark was still convinced that his step-son had been shot in Rhodes. His wife he now described as "suffering an agony of mind". He would hear nothing more for two years. An investigation was, however, underway.

Since the Foreign Office files for both 1949 and 1950 have been destroyed and the officials involved are dead, the only hint of what transpired is contained in the letter to Clark from the Foreign Office dated November 2 1950. It explains that with the help of the signals and the answers of Major Kronsbein, the German officer who escorted the six from Rhodes to Salonika, the investigators had concluded that Tuckey was handed over to "representatives of Lt Colonel Warnstorff".

A more recent discovery has been the interrogation report from Salonika. Tuckey, unlike his commanding officer, had volun-



teered no information. Interrogated by Waldheim's associate, Helmut Poliza, who speaks English, Tuckey spoke in a "sometimes arrogant tone... He belongs to the class of young English intellectuals who show their self-confidence through ironic and sarcastic superiority." Mrs Clark only learnt of this days before her death last month.

Poliza now lives just outside Hamburg. When interviewed by *The Times* he refused to reveal under what circumstances Tuckey left the office he shared with Waldheim. Equally, he has remained silent on Waldheim's participation in deciding Tuckey's fate, which as the Foreign Office told Clark, would have been execution according to the Commando Order.

Neither Poliza nor Warnstorff (who lives in Austria) had comment on whether they were questioned by British officials in 1950. Apart from the three signals the international historians commission investigating Waldheim's war record has been unable to find any of the documents emanating from Waldheim's office about Tuckey's fate. When they questioned Waldheim earlier this week, he denied all knowledge of the commandos passing through the 1c/AC office.

The investigatory report upon which the Foreign Office letter relied was destroyed in 1978.

Next week, the six historians will present their report to the Austrian Chancellor. It will contain many examples of how Waldheim deceived the world about his wartime activities. Apart from being able to establish that Waldheim knew of the presence and fate of the commandos at his headquarters, the historians will not be able to directly link him with their deaths. Other than his fellow officers, the only independent source of that information was possibly in file 2608, destroyed 10 years ago.

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As far as I was concerned they had disappeared and that was it. That was the risk everyone runs in this sort of operation. I felt no responsibility

COLONEL DAVID SUTHERLAND, SAS

(sic) that nothing definite can be discovered here" but listed three Germans, besides Kleeman, who would have information.

Among them was an English speaking interrogator, Helmut Viebrock. Tuckey began pulling strings to find the men among the hordes of POWs. Albert Clark, in the meantime, fumed about the apparent lack of any official investigation. Writing to Admiral H. Monroe at the Admiralty on October 22 1945, he complained "with the passing of time and the

## CONSERVATION

Is a cultural tradition dying out amongst Weddell's seals? In 1823 James Weddell, the British explorer, said that the antarctic seals that took his name sang in the mating season; and if proof were needed, their song was recorded on a phonograph in 1934. But a recent two-year study by H. R. Burton (*Polar Biology*, vol 8, pp 165-166) shows that although seals made lots of other different noises, only one song was heard in the period

## FINDINGS

between pupping and mating — and even that may have been performed by a wandering individual entering the study area. Paul Munton

## CLASSICS

Although the Greeks and Romans hardly ever practised tattooing for religious or decorative purposes, they did go in for penal tattooing — a practice which the Greeks probably borrowed from the

Persians. Delinquent slaves, criminals, and prisoners of war were treated in this way. In the case of slaves and criminals, a statement or indication of the specific offence was sometimes tattooed on the face. The practice of tattooing delinquents gave rise to the use of stigma (the Greek literally means "tattoo mark") in the metaphorical sense "mark of disgrace". As late as the 1860s the British Army was annually tattooing the chests of hundreds of delinquent soldiers with the letters D for "deserter" or BC for "bad character". The subject is examined by Professor C. F. Jones, of the University of Toronto, in the latest issue of *Journal of Roman Studies*. Martin F. Smith

## GEOLOGY

What are we all swimming in? Nearly half the earth's water could have originated from outer space, according to scientists at Cornell University. Their theory (*Nature*, vol 330, p632) suggests that the Earth was bombarded by a considerable number of comets and asteroids.

Comets are composed of 50 per cent water in the form of ice and water vapour; scientists estimate that if only 10 per cent of the debris landing on Earth was cometary it would account for 40 per cent of the Earth's current surface water. They calculated the amounts of material involved by counting the impact craters on the Moon and assuming a similar number existed on the Earth between 4.5 and 3.8 billion years ago. Simon Elay

## Trouble at the hall

The village of Longdon lies just off the main road between Lichfield and Rugby, in Staffordshire. At its centre almost next door to a pub called the Swan with Two Necks, stands the village hall, an unpretentious Victorian building with a steeply pitched slate roof and at least one broken window.

On a bleak winter morning, it does not look the sort of place which anyone would care about. But for Andy Daniels, chairman of the village hall committee, and his supporters, it is central to the community life of the 2,000 inhabitants of Longdon and the neighbouring villages of Upper Longdon and Longdon Green.

Seven years ago, a group of villagers clubbed together to buy the hall, a former school-house still in much the same condition as when it was built in the middle of the last century. "At first, there was a lot of enthusiasm," Daniels recalls, "but because of the age of the building, maintenance has become a headache."

The hall is in active use almost every night, for Scout and Brownie meetings, table tennis competitions, whist drives, barn dances and discos. "Unfortunately, they don't really bring in any money," Daniels says. Sixty miles or so to the north-east, on the other side of Nottingham, is the village of Hovingham. The hall here is also the former school, built in the 1870s next door to the church. Over the years, it has

many buildings converted from Army huts just after the First World War, and well past the end of their useful lives. Converted farm barns or old schools may be structurally sounder, but hundreds of those, too, are in urgent need of repair.

The forum is only one of the many organizations concerned with rural conservation, campaigning for more help for village halls. Last week it started a survey of halls to assess their needs and already it is pressing for, among other things, 100 per cent mandatory rate relief in place of the present 50 per cent, and an assurance that VAT — which is already levied on repairs and maintenance — will not be extended to new building work.

Above all, it wants more help from county councils. Local authorities can make discretionary grants but some are notably more generous than others. In 1987-88, for example, Hampshire has budgeted for £200,000 in grants, while Cumbria will have given just £26,000, and in Norfolk there is an 18-year waiting list.

Beatson puts the average cost of renovation at up to £40,000, and of a new building between £70,000 and £150,000. "The capital required is way beyond the capacity of most small communities," she says.

Louise Beaton, secretary of Village Halls Forum, an offshoot of the Association of Community Councils in Rural England, says that Dunham is sadly not untypical of the

Women's Institutes and whist drives may not be enough to save our village meeting places

become increasingly run down. Derek Catton, secretary of the village hall committee, says it is regularly used by the Women's Institute, and for badminton, keep-fit and dancing classes. "We used to have old-time dancing, but the participants have finally become too old," he says.

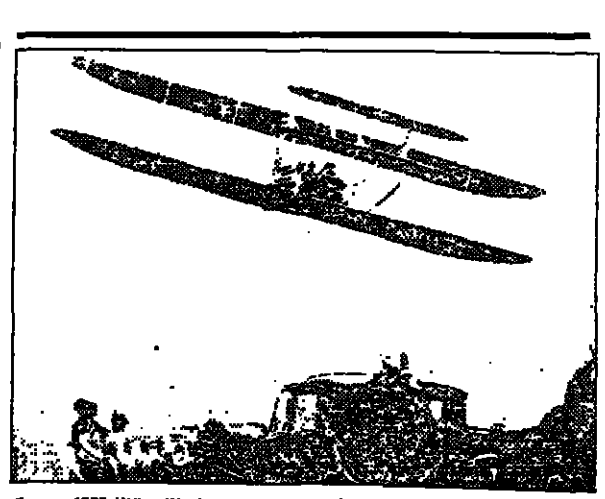
The committee has tried to raise funds through whist drives, antique markets and a Christmas fair. "But it's the same old story. There are too few people ready to work to raise the money," Catton laments.

Another 30 miles further on, the village of Dunham is approached by a curious little toll bridge over the River Trent, which at this point divides Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. Inquiries for the village hall lead to a near-defunct Women's Institute hut, its dark green paint fading and a window broken in its front door.

Louise Beaton, secretary of Village Halls Forum, an offshoot of the Association of Community Councils in Rural England, says that Dunham is sadly not untypical of the

## THE TIMES SATURDAY

Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator At least £8,000 to be won



## The Wright flight

"Wilbur and Orville tossed a coin for first whack. Wilbur won. He lay down on the wing while Orville adjusted the motor. The rope was slipped free..." The Wright Brothers made their first powered flight in 1903. Find out how they did it in *The Times* tomorrow

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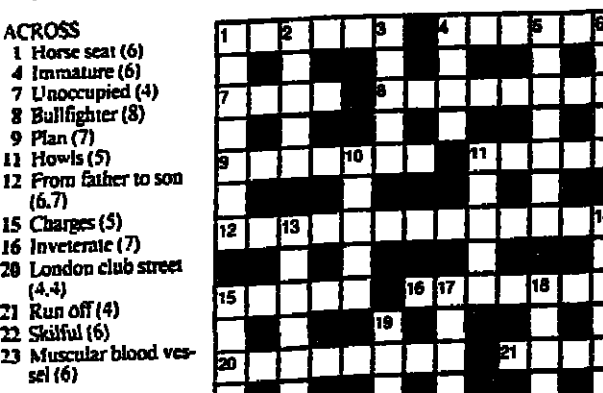
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ACROSS  
1 Horse seat (6)  
4 Immature (6)  
7 Unoccupied (4)  
8 Bullfighter (8)  
9 Plan (7)  
11 Howls (5)  
12 From father to son (6,7)  
15 Charges (5)  
16 Invertebrate (7)  
20 London club street (4,4)  
21 Run off (4)  
22 Skiff (6)  
23 Muscular blood vessel (6)  
DOWN  
1 Slid on road (7)  
2 Dysentery area (5)  
3 Crowd scene actor (5)  
4 Heat (4)  
5 Industrial change wrecker (7)  
6 Goods (5)  
SOLUTION TO NO 1480  
ACROSS: 1 Stride 4 Strait 9 Grappled 18 Recur 11 Whiz  
12 Vibrant 14 Disturbance 18 Madrigal 19 Node 22 Rites  
24 Drizzle 25 Overdo 26 Kennel  
DOWN: 1 Sign 2 Reach 3 Donzetti 5 TTR 6 Archaic 7 Turbot  
8 Oliver Hardy 11 Wad 13 Beaumais 15 Indulge 16 Eve  
17 Embryo 20 Dozen 21 Veil 23 Sed



# TIMES DIARY

VIRGINIA  
BOTTOMLEY

Outspoken MP Eric Forth seemed justified in accusing the Opposition of denying employment to women that is available to men, during Employment Questions in the Commons this week. An hour after Labour MPs in the Commons had questioned the suitability of women for work in mines, the peers again upstaged the Lower House. Three women dropped by rope to the coal face of the House of Lords.

Their arrival is only indicated in the Official House Report by means of an unexplained time lapse before business was resumed following the division on Clause 28 of the Local Government Bill. There is some suggestion that the word "gay" may return to its original meaning. Absentees are reported to be worried that "absenters' rights" may take on new significance.

MPs are debating the White Paper *Human Fertilization and Embryology: a Framework for Legislation*. As a newcomer to the august Medical Research Council I questioned news that the Government is bringing forward legislation to make some research a criminal offence. It emerges that the criminal law was first invoked to regulate research in 1876 with the Cruelty to Animals Act, updated in the 1986 Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act as well as the various Anatomy Acts.

It has been remarked that there is little overlap between MPs who wish to preserve life *in utero* and those who would see it preserved from the hangman. In the debate on David Alton's abortion Bill there was slender relationship between those anxious to save unborn children and the regular campaigners for children's welfare, child benefit, family courts and the rest.

This week marks the 70th anniversary of women's suffrage. A dinner was given by 35 Conservative women Members of the Commons and Lords for the Prime Minister as a tribute to her years in office. The dinner was chaired by the Mother of the House of Lords, Baroness Elliott of Harwood. She conducted the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 through the Lords when it came from the Commons after being introduced by Margaret Thatcher in her maiden speech.

I hope two myths were finally exploded at the dinner. It is bizarre that the first woman leader of the Conservative Party, first woman prime minister of our country and the longest serving leader this century should be accused of failing to further the cause of women. Mrs Thatcher has established incontrovertibly that there can be no job which women cannot perform. On a more personal level, a tale with which I have lived, arising from an equivocal comment by a journalist who pursued me round the Isle of Wight in the 1983 election campaign, had it that I would not choose to dine with the Prime Minister. I hope the fiction was well and truly nailed this week.

BARRY FANTONI



'Apparently it's part of the PM's plan to shift power to the Government'

In a Georgian room near Parliament, under Lord Rawlinson's brisk chairmanship, we settled this year's Ross McWhirter Memorial Trust's 11th dinner to be held on April 16 at the Inns of Court. One to be honoured is the Soviet gulag poetess Irina Ratushinskaya. The guru of the Institute of Economics Affairs, Lord Harris of High Cross, will speak.

The trust was established by Norris McWhirter, the late Alan Lennox-Boyd and Ralph Harris to commemorate the life of Ross McWhirter, murdered by IRA gunmen. He had tried to persuade the then Home Secretary Roy Jenkins that £50,000 rewards would result in the arrest of the bombers who had blown up his friend, the cancer researcher Professor Gordon Hamilton Fairley. In the face of a dusty reply from the Home Office he set about raising the rewards through private enterprise. This became official Home Office policy last month with the Metropolitan Police Crime-watch Campaign.

The award of the George Medal for the Zebrugge heroes was a welcome recognition of gallantry. What has happened to the George Cross, which comes second in the hierarchy only to the Victoria Cross? It was founded in 1940 by George VI and last awarded in 1974 to Inspector James Beaton, who saved George VI's granddaughter, the Princess Royal. A tax-free payment of £8.50 each month is made to the 82 surviving recipients of the award. Although public funds are involved, parliamentary questions on the subject are not in order because they relate to the exercise of the royal prerogative.

Ascribe in *The Surrey and Hants News* has told me to improve my style by consulting my neighbouring MP, writer and constituent Julian Critchley. Aspiring politicians regard his *Westminster Blues* as essential reading. Following his advice, I recently had a sober grey flannel suit made with four buttons on the cuff. Connoisseurs will recall the distinction he draws between those with three buttons and those with four. I fail the subsequent test. The button holes do not open. Nicholas Soames, MP for Crawley, has of course gone further. His cuffs have five buttons.

Management and union negotiations at the Ford Motor Company will be forced unwillingly back together after yesterday's rejection by the 32,500 workers of a three-year pay deal. The company's task will not be easy, for the workers who voted emphatically against the deal, despite the recommendation from their union leaders, are convinced that justice is on their side.

They have kept up their end of the company's drive for greater productivity, which improved 23 per cent last year over 1986. In the last wage agreement the unions accepted the replacement of more than 500 traditional job titles with 52 new job descriptions. Car production from the Dagenham and Halewood factories reached 383,000 last year, the highest since 1979. Five years ago Halewood would build fewer than 750 Escorts on a good day, yet last year daily output was consistently 1,150 cars.

The higher productivity and output has fattened up profits, expected to be significantly higher when announced in April

than the £45 million operating profit recorded in 1986. (In 1985 net profits were as high as £160 million.) The notorious reputation for striking at the drop of a spanner has largely disappeared. Ford's last major strike over wages was in 1978. Before the unofficial walkouts at the end of 1987 over the present wage deal, the workforce was set to achieve the lowest number of lost hours in its history.

After these improvements, the management's attempt to link the three-year pay award with a radical shake-up on the factory floor, bringing Japanese-style flexibility with worker quality-control circles, was judged by the workforce to be pushing too hard. The law of "us and us" still applies. The overall

pay increase, worth £41 a week to a line worker, would barely make Ford employees better off than their Vauxhall rivals. Is this a fair reward, they ask, when only in 1987 has Vauxhall been able to end a decade of losses, a period in which Ford has made profits approaching £1 billion. The example of previous Ford chairman like Sam Toy and Terence Beckett, publicly admonishing the workforce and highlighting the crisis facing the company, is not in the style of the present incumbent, Derek Barron. This wary, quiet figure, who has been with Ford since his school years, made his reputation running Ford sales companies in Italy and South America. He will be happier making detailed marketing plans

than taking the television time-light in a strike. Vauxhall gave way in its bid to secure a three-year agreement. Barron will be convinced his deal should not be sacrificed in any late-night negotiations. Ford achieved its best productivity improvement during the first two-year deal it negotiated in 1985, and rival car makers will hope Ford can establish the three-year agreement as an industry norm. It already is in North America.

Ford is a victim of its own success. The company can hardly threaten to retreat from Britain if things do not go its way; it has made a massive commitment to staying in the country with planned investment in plant and equipment of

£1,660 million between 1986 and 1991. The unions need no reminding that the UK is Ford's biggest market in Europe. The threat of moving car production to the Continent has largely receded with the strengthening of the German mark. Britain is one of the cheapest places to build cars in Europe. Ford now builds close to 70 per cent of the cars sold here in its British factories.

Productivity lags behind continental standards but so does pay. Ford says quality standards are 15 per cent below those achieved in the German and Spanish plants, but the workers prefer to emphasize the undoubted quality improvements they have made over the past two years.

For the moment the issue of British quality does not matter greatly to Ford because few cars are exported from Halewood and Dagenham. Only if the two factories achieve a productivity improvement of over 20 per cent this year, and push output to the maximum of 450,000 cars a year, will exports be considered in 1988/89. Continental Ford dealers are not falling over themselves to have the lower-quality British cars on their forecourts.

The 32,500 workers look at Ford's secure market leadership in Britain and fail to see the need for constant improvement and change. Nissan's arrival in Sunderland has brought Japanese working practices several steps closer to home, and its plant is able to produce cars for perhaps £500 less than its British rivals.

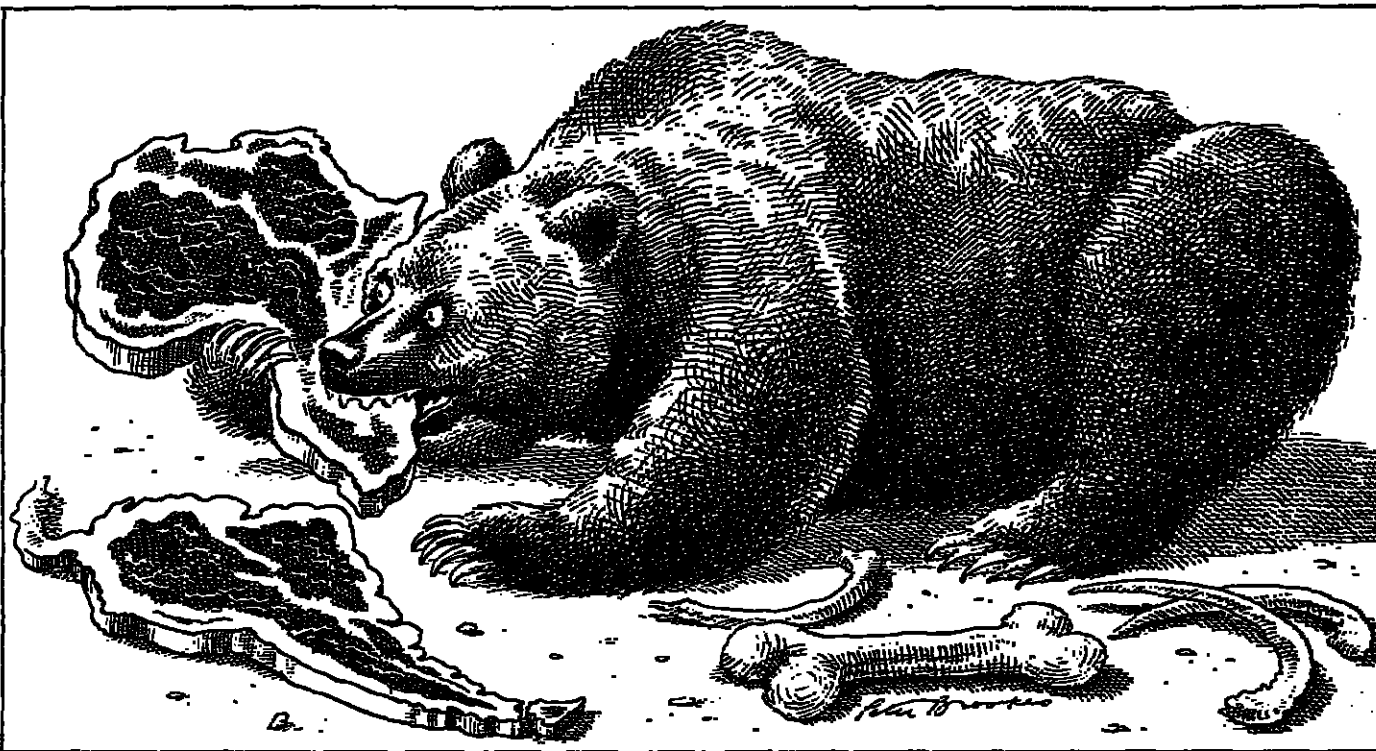
As Ford executives suffer the ignominy of making their third "offer" or face a long strike which would sever the supply of engines to continental plants, workers will believe their unexpected anger may secure more concessions.

## Daniel Ward on the reasons for the motor workers' pay revolt

# Can Ford survive success?

David Owen

# The prowler moves its patch



The Soviet economy is not likely to respond quickly to the Gorbachev reforms. One has to remember that there has never been an entrepreneurial culture in Russia, even under the Tsars, and establishing any form of market discipline will take time. Gorbachev will therefore be looking, like any politician facing difficult times, for success in other areas. On the assumption that Western Europe withstands Soviet propaganda for its denunciation, foreign policy successes will have to come in the Third World. Here the prospects for the new flexible Soviet foreign policy are quite good.

It is clear that the Soviet Union sees the UN as a forum in which it can project itself, and has abandoned its past record of malign neglect. It has announced that it will repay its substantial debt to all UN bodies, and is starting to use the full range of UN activity by participating fully and, it has to be admitted, in many cases constructively. It has realized how much ground it lost in the Third World during the Carter presidency, and how little it gained, despite the unpopularity of the Reagan presidency, with the vast majority of UN member states.

The first demonstration of the new emphasis in Soviet policy came over the Gulf and the Iran-Iraq war. In late 1987 the Soviet Union was even ready to apply mandatory sanctions against Iran if only the US dropped its resistance to a UN maritime force in the Gulf. The US was far too unimaginative and clung unrealistically to the view that to allow Soviet participation in a UN force would give it permanent influence in the region. But in truth, the Soviet Union has been a major influence there for some time.

The Shah was always careful to safeguard his northern frontier and to keep the Soviet Union in play while appearing to be operating only within the Western sphere of influence. Iraq has benefited for many years from sophisticated Soviet armaments. In recent months even Saudi Arabia, which used to refuse any contact with Communist governments, has developed its Soviet diplomatic links. Kuwait, after all, flagged out

some of its ships to the Soviet Union from the start, seeing the wisdom of locking the Soviets as well as the Western maritime powers into protecting free passage in the Gulf.

The Soviet Union cannot be excluded from this region, for what happens there involves its vital interests. Even its invasion of Afghanistan in late 1979 was defensive, rather than offensive. While we in the West could afford the humiliation of the Shah's overthrow, the Soviet Union felt it could not afford to be pushed out of Afghanistan by a similar Islamic revolution. Any careful assessment of Western interests must include a readiness to co-operate with the Soviet Union in allowing the free passage of oil tankers in the Gulf. Whether that extends to bringing about a peace settlement between Iran and Iraq is more arguable in terms of respectability, but in humanitarian terms, to help perpetuate this war is indefensible.

As to Afghanistan, here the Soviet Union deserves everything it gets. It was inevitable that it would get a bloody nose, just as Britain at the height of its

Empire was defeated by the Afghans, so will be the Soviet Union. It did not lift a finger to help the US, even at a time of détente, to save face when America was forced to withdraw from Vietnam, and there is no possible argument for the West now helping the Soviet Union which, if it was wise, would cut its losses and leave, rather as Britain did when withdrawing from Aden. The most the US should do is not to rub salt in the wounds while the Russians are leaving by stepping up supplies of Stinger missiles to the Mujahidin. The Soviet Union should not be allowed to bargain over its withdrawal. Nor should there be any direct diplomatic link established involving either Nicaragua, Angola, or Kampuchea.

Nicaragua is delicately poised either to move towards the Arias peace plan or to reject it. The refusal by the US Congress to finance further military aid to the Contras is not the disaster Reagan pretends. The Contras are strong enough to keep up some pressure on the Sandinistas for some time. What is

needed now is the carrot of economic help for Nicaragua. Here the European Community, at the San José IV Conference at the end of February, has an opportunity to give a much-needed lead to the US. The re-establishment of a sound Central American Common Market, from which only democratic countries could benefit through membership, is just the sort of imaginative reinforcement that the Arias peace plan now needs.

A European readiness to contribute might prompt Congress to vote sufficient funds to make it a reality. It will not be easy, for Congress at present is appallingly tight-fisted, as Cory Aquino knows to her cost when trying to attract friends to buttress her democratic government in the Philippines. If the US cannot put its money where its mouth is when encouraging democracy in countries where its vital interests are affected, then it deserves to lose out to the Soviet Union in both Nicaragua and the Philippines.

Perhaps the area in which the Soviet Union is currently being most co-operative and far-sighted is the Arab-Israeli

dispute. It has systematically met every one of Israel's objections to an international peace conference. It is ready to recognize Israel diplomatically. It will expand Jewish emigration to Israel once a peace conference is convened. It is not asking for a major participating role in the negotiations. It has accepted that this process will be predominantly bilateral, with Israel negotiating direct to the Lebanon, Israel to Syria, Israel to Jordan with representative Palestinian involvement, and Israel to Egypt.

The cynic will say the Soviet Union will create trouble once the peace conference starts, and certainly there will be that temptation from time to time. But an alternative view which I favour is that the Soviet Union has realized for some time that this region is one of the few in the world which could trigger a Third World War and a nuclear exchange. Andrei Gromyko became evermore concerned about the Middle East and justifiably angry when the US, responding only to Sadat, totally abandoned its earlier joint approach.

As in the Gulf, there will be no

solution of the Arab-Israeli dispute without Soviet involvement. It knows it is not the major player and that that role will continue to be played by the US. But it is not prepared to be excluded. It is just as afraid of Islamic fundamentalism as we in the West, and because of its own indigenous Muslim population it is more at risk. As Islamic influence grows in the West Bank and Gaza, it is time for Reagan to turn himself and use the last few months of his presidency to push a divided Israeli Cabinet into an international peace conference before the Israeli election.

In all these diverse areas of foreign policy there are interests which the Soviet Union and the West will protect, while also recognizing the need to protect a common interest. At present, neither side has yet realized that the crudities of former East-West diplomacy are drawing to a close. We are in a new flexible fast-moving era. Gorbachev is playing his hand with skill and dexterity. Reagan outside Europe neither speaks nor plays for the West. There is a serious gap in the co-ordination of Western foreign policy; not because the key foreign ministers — George Shultz, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Jean-Bernard Raimond — do not get on together, but because whereas Shultz has managed to bring Reagan's policies in range of his allies over Europe, he has nowhere near as much influence over Reagan's policies to the rest of the world. Nor does he even appear to devote much time to trying to achieve such co-ordination.

This means that the Soviet Union is presented with innumerable opportunities, not only to exploit Western divisions over the Third World, but also to capitalize on Western mistakes. Gorbachev looks as if he has only just begun to realize the immense potential he has to achieve foreign policy successes outside Europe. But as one watches Soviet policy towards India, China, and South-east Asia, one can see a developing sophistication that is leaving the US in the starting blocks and Western Europe well behind on the track.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

# Press perfidious

Ann Clwyd is moving the second reading of her Unfair Reporting and Right of Reply Bill in the Commons today. It gives "members of the public the right of reply to allegations made against them, or to misreporting or misrepresentation about them in the press or in broadcasts", for legal aid to be extended to those suing for defamation; and for a media commissioner to be established charged with laying down guidelines for the treatment of sensitive issues and monitoring the performance of the media.

All who believe in the need for a responsible and fair press should support the Bill. Its measures are long overdue. No mature democracy should tolerate the power of a few individuals, be they proprietors or editors, sinners or saints, to humiliate and destroy ordinary people, their lives and families, without any effective check.

The principle that the media needs to be supervised has already been conceded with the creation of the Press Council and the Broadcasting Complaints Commission. The arguments do not need to be rehearsed. Neither do those outlining the failure of these worthy organizations to do the job entrusted to them. They don't work, as few would deny.

There is abundant evidence to show that the standards of much of the media, and especially the press, have declined substantially in the past few years. That many so-called journalists are often sloppy and lazy is well-known to those who have to deal with them regularly. Richard Shepherd spoke very bluntly for many MPs when, in moving the second reading of the Protection of Official Information Bill three weeks ago, he spoke of the

parliamentary lobby as a "hal-lelujah chorus" that "rejoices at every government hand-out that is put their way, repeats it as though it were a masterful piece of investigative journalism, and passes it off as though there were veracity in it".

Anyone who doubts this description of the supine way in which much of what is passed off as political news reaches us should glance back at two recent examples.

One was the way in which virtually every newspaper blossomed with laudatory articles and features on David Mellor during the few days after his outburst in Gaza. The silken hand of the Foreign Office, briefers were imprinted on most of the copy, much of it employing the same cloying terminology. Also evident was the fist of Neil Kinnock — or one of his henchwomen — in the humiliation of the foolish and luckless John Prescott. In both cases unnamed and irresponsible sources were enabled to manipulate the news, were used indiscriminately by those who failed to do their own research and make up their own minds.

This unquestioning acceptance of hand-outs and briefings is far more dangerous to democracy than the attack on press freedom by the Government. When the press behaves in this shoddy manner and displays such sycophancy there is no need for an Official Secrets Act.

But this is just one sin. Ann Clwyd is addressing herself to yet another. Like many who yet defend a "free and untrammelled press" she is perturbed by the way in which large sections of it habitually lie, distort, mis-report and mislead.

We all know this to be the case. The evidence is before us nearly every day. Some of us have direct experience of the "exclusive" interview that never took place, of another, "conducted at home" composed of old and inaccurate cuttings of the deliberate lie which made better copy than the truth; of the careful omissions and distortions to create a false impression.

That, we are told, is the price of being a public figure. I don't accept that. Being in the "public eye", whatever that means, does not justify the invasion of privacy or the telling of lies. But leave the case for public figures to one side. More important is the one for ordinary people without the cunning, the knowledge, the ability and the funds to seek out their detractors and hit back. They are subjected to inexcusable harassment and prying into their private affairs, and have their lives and those of their families destroyed by snooty, hypocritical reporters who seem to think that describing themselves as journalists puts them on a par with brain surgeons and justifies any excess.

Well, they're not, and it doesn't. The lies and the harassment have to stop. The proprietors, the editors, the unions and the industry watchdogs have all demonstrated a constitutional inability to deal effectively with their own dung heap, and do it for them. There's no better time than the present. All who still value a free and fair press, and who also believe in justice for everyone, should step into the Aye lobby with Ann Clwyd today.

The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86

SCIENCE REPORT

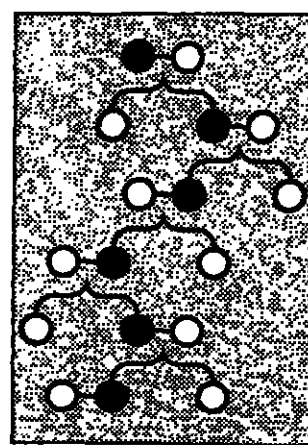
# Bad medicine

A genetic puzzle researchers have been anxious to solve is why the same drug may have a different effect on two apparently similar people. Now an international team of biomedical researchers reporting in this week's *Nature* claims to have solved the puzzle.

Dr Frank J. Gonzalez, of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, and his colleagues have studied a condition called *debrisoquine* metabolism deficiency, which affects between 5 and 10 per cent of all whites from Europe and North America. People with this condition are unaware of it until they are prescribed drugs which are normally broken down in the body by an enzyme called *p450db1*. While most people have nothing to fear from this class of drugs, those classed as "poor metabolizers" have insufficient *p450db1*, and may suffer serious side effects.

The condition was discovered just over 10 years ago, when researchers took small doses of the blood pressure drug *debrisoquine* during a routine study. Three subsequently suffered a serious and potentially dangerous drop in blood pressure, prompting an investigation. It turned out that these three were poor metabolizers who had inherited a gene that caused the condition.

Far from being rare, the defect was found to be so widespread that as many as a dozen passengers on any crowded rush-hour Tube carriage could suffer from it. In



Richard Leachman

fact, even though no more than 10 per cent of European and North American whites exhibit the faulty metabolism, others may carry the inherited defect. The researchers have estimated that as much as 43 per cent of the population may carry the inherited defect in some form. If this is so it would be one of the most common genetic disorders.

Blood pressure medication is not the only drug that has an undesirable effect on these poor metabolizers. Other drugs are similar to *debrisoquine* in that they require patients to possess a properly functioning enzyme *p450db1*. This gives the pharmaceutical industry cause for concern, since the investment of millions of pounds in a new drug will be wasted if it is found — too late — that the new product is likely to poison many rather than cure. Against this press-

ing need, Gonzalez and his colleagues set to work to find out where in the genetic machinery the gene that codes for faulty *p450db1* is failing. Using the tools of genetic engineering they made cultures of cells to study the problem more closely.

Normally, genetic information is turned into enzymes via an intermediate molecule called messenger RNA. This carries the genetic information from the chromosomes in the nucleus of the cell to particles called ribosomes, which use the information as a blueprint for building the enzyme.

In the case of enzyme *p450db1*, however, matters are not quite so straightforward. The messenger RNA undergoes several stages of biochemical processing before it gets to the ribosomes. Gonzalez and his group found that poor metabolizers have a mutation which throws this processing out of kilter, scrambling the information in the messenger RNA and making it unintelligible to the ribosomes, so that *p450db1* molecules cannot be constructed.

Using tissue cultures may open the door to easier and more precise methods of drug development. The system developed by Gonzalez and his colleagues may be a first step towards a routine screening test for new drugs to see whether they are metabolized by enzyme *p450db1* and are likely to cause problems.

HENRY GEE

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## IN ORTEGA'S COURT

The vote by the House of Representatives against more aid for the Contra rebels in Nicaragua is a serious political defeat for President Reagan and a severe financial setback for the Contras. But the person who stands to lose most may be the man who today is celebrating the most, President Ortega.

The flow of US aid for the Contra fighters has never been smooth. Begun in the form of secret payments seven years ago, it was halted by Congress in 1984, re-started in 1986, then reduced to a series of short-term non-military aid packages last year. While the loss of aid is a blow for the Contras, they have some experience of managing without it. Some humanitarian help may still be forthcoming anyway, which should indirectly benefit their cause.

The general assumption must be that the Contras' fighting capacity will suffer. But they have given little sign in the last eight years that they have had a military victory in their grasp. They have succeeded in applying great pressure on the Sandinistas, not least by helping to drain the government exchequer. The anxiety shown by President Ortega about the prospect of more military aid from Washington is proof of the trouble that the continuing war has caused him.

The Contras are very far from being a defeated force. Their capacity to harass the Sandinista government remains. Whether funded from America or not, the Contras are not about to fade away.

There must be two objectives in Central America. The first is an end to needless killing and human suffering; the second is the triumph of democracy and individual freedoms. These are the principal goals of the peace plan, drawn up by President Arias of Costa Rica, which was agreed by five governments in the region last summer.

Last month, President Ortega, belatedly (and grudgingly) made a series of concessions under the plan. He lifted the six-year-old state of emergency, promised free elections and an amnesty for political prisoners and agreed to open ceasefire talks with the Contras. That he was brought to the negotiating table, partly by pressure from Washington and its policies, is indisputable. So too, however, is his lack of trustworthiness to carry through these reforms.

To pressure the Sandinistas into giving way, then release one's hold prematurely, does not make sense. Towards the end of last year, Mr Ortega himself suggested that, free elections or not, the Sandinistas would retain power in their hands. A leader with that political philosophy does not encourage much confidence in the West.

It is just possible that the White House's Central American policy has already done its work. Faced by a war-weary people and an economy whose condition is critical, President Ortega is not blessed with many options. Under diplomatic pressure abroad, social pressure at home and continuing military pressure from the Contras, he may find the steps he has taken hard to reverse.

Had this week's vote approved the latest package of military aid for Contras, he would at least have been able to point to continuing American "aggression". As it is, he has no such excuse to justify any backtracking.

The decision taken by Congress is not irrevocable. A clear breach of the undertaking he has given, should reopen the arguments which were only narrowly defeated in the House. When he made his concessions last month, he was said to have placed the ball in the American court. Now Congress has volleyed it back — and President Ortega should be made aware that the rest of the world will be watching to see how he plays his next shot.

## NO TEARS FOR ILEA

It is exactly eight years since a committee of London Conservatives, chaired by Mr Kenneth Baker, concluded that responsibility for education in inner London should be devolved to the boroughs. It was a sensible recommendation.

It was quickly overtaken, however, by the abolition of the Greater London Council and the Cabinet's decision to accept Sir Keith Joseph's proposal that the ILEA, then technically a committee of the GLC, should become the country's first directly elected, single-purpose education authority. Those elections, in May 1986, which were won convincingly by Labour, made it politically awkward for the Conservatives to follow the Prime Minister's instincts and announce the outright abolition of the ILEA in last June's manifesto.

Instead they proposed to allow those boroughs that wanted to become independent to opt out from April 1990. This was an unhappy compromise which raised immediate concerns about the fate of the schools that were to be left for an indeterminate period under the control of an unstable and dwindling authority. The Education Reform Bill made an unconvincing attempt to deal with the issue by providing for the abolition of the rump once eight of the 13 boroughs had opted out.

An amendment tabled in committee by Dr Keith Hampton would have lowered the trigger to five, which could well have led to abolition by 1990: three boroughs, Wandsworth, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster, have already decided to leave; the City of London was expected to follow suit in the next few weeks; and Tower Hamlets has been actively considering it.

By this time, however, Mr Norman Tebbit and Mr Michael Heseltine had the bit between their teeth. Their early day motion calling for outright abolition attracted more than 100 signatures. A U-turn or, at the very least, a tele-scoping of the Government's timetable, was clearly in the offing.

As a result the Government is to hand over inner London schools to a clutch of left-wing

authorities some of which have become national by-words for political extremism, bloody-mindedness, incompetence and, in one case, corruption. Six of them, Camden, Hackney, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark have been indicted by the Audit Commission for waste, inefficiency and amateurism.

The children whose education these same authorities will become responsible for are among the most comprehensively disadvantaged in the country: nearly half are eligible for free school meals, a quarter live in one-parent families, a quarter speak English as a second language if at all, and nearly 45 per cent are from ethnic minorities. Mr John Banham, the former chairman of the Audit Commission, was moved to remark that the spectre hanging over parts of London was that they could all too easily become like parts of New York and Chicago. The question is whether that spectre has now been brought closer.

The only possible answer lies in all the Government's other education reforms. If national educational standards can be raised by imposing a national curriculum, introducing attainment tests at seven, 11, 14 and 16, giving schools control of their own budgets, offering parents more say in how schools are run, and by inviting individual schools to opt out of local authority control, there is no inescapable reason why inner London standards should not rise also.

The best that can be said of some of the rotten boroughs that are to succeed the ILEA is that they will be small and, after the simultaneous introduction in 1990 of the community charge, more vulnerable to their electorates. The Government is doing everything possible to ensure that if, in future, inner London parents do not like the education their children are receiving they will at least be able to do something about it. We must hope that they take the opportunity. There should be no tears for the ILEA.

## LORDS A LEAPING

Henry Mayo Bateman would have been in his element in the House of Lords yesterday afternoon. What better subject for him than the Fifth Baron Monkswell who appalled his fellow peers by taking a political statement to a personal one?

On the surface this may seem as trivial an offence as that of the "teetotaler who did a hole-in-one and offered cups of tea all round". But their lordships did not see it that way. Lord Monkswell, a hereditary peer who sits on the Labour benches, was disowned as vigorously on his own side as by the Government.

It was not just the substance of his attack on Clause 28 of the Local Government Bill which caused offence — though his likening of a ban on promoting homosexuality at public expense to Hitler's treatment of the Jews was as outrageous as anything even Mr Ken Livingstone has offered to the Commons. It was the breach of parliamentary convention which raised eyebrows (and voices) high.

Lord Monkswell had been revealed yesterday as the peer who allowed the unwelcome visitors into the privileged visitors' gallery. This was the only place in the Chamber from where they could launch their SAS-style incursion of protest against Clause 28.

His fellow peers, on both sides and on the cross benches, had hoped he would send discreet letters of apology to Black Rod and Lord Belstead, the new Leader of the Lords, so that they could decently forget the whole unseemly business. Instead Lord Monkswell, a former labourer and factory worker, used the occasion to continue the attack on the Government and, in doing so, raised yet again the vexed question of how the Lords runs its affairs.

The days when the Lords was mainly a talking shop of old men are long gone. With a

Government intent on a huge programme of legislation and confident in its ability to ride any storm in the Commons, the Lords has had to get down to some serious business, putting considerable strain on its conventions.

The House of Commons has a series of rules that govern its affairs and a Speaker, supported by learned clerks, to see those rules are obeyed. There are no systems to control the Lords, no Speaker, what the peers do and say is controlled by nobody but themselves. The proceedings are governed not by Standing Order but by tradition. In theory, a peer can speak on anything that he chooses when he chooses, even if, in practice, good sense prevents that happening too often.

There has been pressure from within the House to see whether some controls should be introduced, not least because as the business has increased so has the length of some of the speeches. Lord Whitelaw set up a working group to consider possible changes. A questionnaire was sent to all peers asking them what changes they would like to see. The resounding answer came back: none.

A similar response may come from the peers who were yesterday charged with an inquiry into personal statements made in the upper chamber. There is a natural resistance to follow too closely the patterns set by the Commons, now as often marked by its rowdies as by the quality of its debate.

Until now the House of Lords has maintained good order by instinct rather than by rule. It will be a pity if this tradition cannot be maintained. It will be a pity too if Lord Monkswell is not reminded that the Labour whip can be more easily removed from him than from Mr Livingstone.

## Dental troubles affecting life

From Professor M. E. J. Curzon  
Sir, Today I examined two children, six and seven years old, who both had badly decayed baby teeth. Although this is a daily occurrence in our clinic these particular children had both had open-heart surgery in the past five years and therefore were at considerable risk of infection from their abscessed teeth.

In the case of one child three general dental practitioners had refused to treat the baby teeth. This is a typical example of how major heart surgery is jeopardised by a lack of specialised dental treatment. The condition of children with heart disease, cancer, cystic fibrosis and many other medical problems can be compromised by a lack of high-quality dental care.

Specialist care by paediatric dental consultants is required for such children, as well as those with mental, physical and emotional handicaps. For example, there is only one consultant in the Yorkshire Regional Health Authority for a population of four and a half million people. There is no senior registrar or registrar. Most other regional health authorities are just as badly served and indeed some, such as East Anglia, have no paediatric dentists at all.

Compared with the needs of paediatric cardiology, oncology or other areas of paediatric care the requirement for paediatric dental consultants might seem of lesser importance, yet to the child with missing, decayed or defective teeth it can be essential to their quality of life.

The total establishment for the United Kingdom, with a population of 56 million people, is 37 consultants in paediatric dentistry. This should be compared with Sweden, which has 120 consultants for a population of eight million. All areas of the health service now need better financial support, but this must be in all specialties and especially for those which have been starved and neglected for years.

Yours sincerely,  
M. E. J. CURZON, Head,  
Department of Child Dental Health.

The University of Leeds,  
School of Dentistry,  
Dental and Medical Building,  
Clarendon Way,  
Leeds, West Yorkshire,  
February 2.

## By junk to Hormuz

From the Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest

Sir, The planned voyage of Dr Moran and his wife in the junk Cocachin (article, January 25, letter, February 1) brings to mind the spate of medals commemorating the arrival of the junk Keying in England in March, 1848. Purchased in Canton in August, 1846, she sailed in December from Hong Kong under the command of Captain Kellert, rounding the Cape of Good Hope in March and arriving in New York on July 10, 1847, and thence via Boston to England — a total journey of nearly 16 months. Certainly a tribute to the seaworthiness of such a ship.

Thanks to the medals celebrating the event we know she was 160ft in length, twice that of the Cocachin, and a burden of about 800 tons. The Keying's mainmast was described as being 85ft from the deck and made of ironwood.

The New Forest has furnished masts and spars from Douglas fir for a number of ships in recent years, including the Soren Larsen, Astrid and Discovery. If Dr Moran has difficulty in finding a mainmast for the Cocachin he may like to get in touch with me. Yours faithfully,  
D. J. PERRY (Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest),  
Forestry Commission,  
The Queen's House,  
Lindisfarne, Hampshire,  
February 2.

## Uneasy on the ear

From Mrs Dorothy Spender  
Sir, Letters discussing the sound of footsteps (January 22, 27, February 1) reminded me of one that will not be heard again.

Visiting my grandmother's home in a Lancashire cotton town in the 1920s, I was awakened in the dark winter morning by the tremendous clatter made by the millworkers in their clogs, going down the hill below my window.

First, a few complacent early risers, then a steady increase in the sound, and also in the speed of the footsteps, as starting time approached, fading away to quiet, broken only by the frantic clatter of a few latecomers.

The evening return, uphill at the end of a hard day, was never so dramatic. Yours faithfully,  
DOROTHY SPENDER,  
45 Botanic Road,  
Southport, Lancashire,  
February 1.

## Two previous owners

From Mr Richard Cox  
Sir, Your Personal Column today (February 2) offers a pair of African "un-used" ivory tusks for sale.

Quite apart from the probability of their export from Africa having been illegal, did the elephant itself not use them — and value them more highly than your advertiser? Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD COX,  
Mount Pleasant, Coppice Lane,  
Reigate, Surrey.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Fresh look at forestry in the UK

From the Chairman of the Countryside Commission  
Sir, The long drawn-out arguments about conifer planting in the Flow Country of northern Scotland and the disaster to woodlands in the South-east caused by the October hurricane have tended to divert public attention away from the main issue of the need for a new look at UK forestry policy.

In coming to a view on the future shape of policy in this important field the Countryside Commission has had full regard to the position of the forestry industry and the impending changes in land use. Our policy statement, "Forestry in the countryside", is in no sense a blinkered document with a disproportionate emphasis on landscape conservation and recreation. The elements need to be in sensible balance with other interests and fashioned in the light of economic and political realities.

In simple terms, the Countryside Commission believes the time has come for national forestry policy to be based on multiple objectives. The present dominant emphasis on commercial timber production should surely be questioned. The starting point for public support for forestry ought to be the requirement to maximise all the potential benefits for the nation. To this end the present system of tax reliefs and grants, controls and advice would have to be amended.

### King's Cross inquiry

From the Director of the Fire Protection Association  
Sir, The Times (February 1) has forecast that the Fire Protection Association is expected to publish criticism of the standards of safety training provided for London Underground staff. This is not so, because we do not know what their level of training is.

What the FPA has in fact done is to make a submission to the inquiry emphasizing the vital importance of staff training in all enterprises and offering positively to help London Underground, should it so wish, in establishing an appropriate training programme.

The next major fire disaster will doubtless occur in some location far removed from an underground railway station. We are concerned to ensure that the management of any business enterprise should have a programme for training its employees in (a) how to prevent fires occurring and (b) how to react effectively in the event of fire. If more businesses did this, there would be far fewer disasters.

Yours faithfully,  
D. DOUGLAS WOODWARD,  
Director, Fire Protection Association,  
140 Aldersgate Street, EC1,  
February 2.

### Church schools

From Mrs Nicholas Gregory  
Sir, Kenneth Baker in his article on church schools (February 1) says, "parents will at last have real leverage". This is far from being the case. In fact in Catholic schools they will have even less say than they do at present.

The majority of the governing board are appointed by the diocese concerned, on the condition that they "comply with requests or instructions" from the Archbishop. Under the new Bill governors have even greater powers than they do at present. Thus the diocese, through its appointed governors, can implement radical changes of policy, regardless of the wishes of parents, who have no redress.

This anomaly has been highlighted recently in the case of

### Young musicians

From the Principal of Trinity College of Music

Sir, Recently I have had the pleasure and satisfaction of working with the London Schools Symphony Orchestra, organised by ILEA. Probably only a few of the orchestra's members are destined for the musical profession; what interested me was that all of them could meet the demands of discipline, co-ordination, intense concentration and responsibility which complex orchestral playing requires. (The musical programme came from "real life", not from the old school orchestra repertoire I can recall.) They worked long hours in holidays and

### Warship base

From Mr Robert E. Gregson  
Sir, The report by Alan Hamilton (January 29) of suggestions to preserve a warship from the Falklands conflict and other notable vessels dwells on a suitable site and the costs.

The cost of preservation and conservation would clearly be a problem. However, as reported in *The Times* (January 19), a company has been formed in Hartlepool to utilise the skills of that town's people in such work. Hartlepool should therefore be the conservation and preservation port or yard. If the occupancy costs in Hartlepool are lower than London it might also become the head office of the Warship Preservation Trust.

I presume the warships preserved will be floating. To defray costs perhaps they could be towed (even steamed) round the coast, spending say 18 months to two years in each selected port, exposing them to a greater potential audience.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
ROBERT E. GREGSON,  
56 Albany Road, Ansdell,  
Lytham St. Anne's, Lancashire.

We welcome the expansion of forestry, provided the policy is firmly based not only on the provision of timber as a raw material and as an alternative to agricultural land use, but also as an instrument for creating jobs, for enhancing the natural beauty of the countryside with its associated wildlife habitats, and for creating attractive sites for public enjoyment.

Our recent policy statement mooted the creation of a major new forest in the English Midlands and forests with a recreational as well as a commercial purpose on the edge of some of our major cities, as demonstrations of desirable new national patterns.

There can be no doubt that robust opportunities do exist for forestry to play a more prominent land-use role if it can avoid some of the unwitting mistakes of narrow focus made by the farming industry over past decades. What is required is a review of the industry and its funding systems, with an imaginative redeployment of the existing resources to encourage the achievement of objectives additional to timber production.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK BARBER, Chairman,  
Countryside Commission,  
John Dower House,  
Crescent Place,  
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,  
February 4.

### Breaking the mould

From Mr Richard Roberts  
Sir, Now that the black comedy of the merger conferences is over, may I suggest a course of action to Dr Owen and his supporters, which would at the same time save them from political extinction and appeal to a genuine political principle?

While continuing to put forward their policies, they should announce that they will fight the next election on a single issue — proportional representation. They should make it clear that, if they get a majority of seats in the House of Commons, a Bill for a system of proportional representation will be immediately introduced.

As soon as that Bill was passed the Government would resign, and force a second election under the new electoral system: so the first election would be, effectively, a referendum on proportional representation.

Dr Owen might then find himself getting some interesting callers at his door, and not just the unfortunate Mr MacLennan.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD ROBERTS,  
Flat 7,  
17 Lewes Crescent,  
Brighton, Sussex,  
February 1.

Cardinal Vaughan School, Westminster, and now with the current dispute at Trinity School, Leamington Spa, where the diocese is trying to take control of the appointment of a new principal and thus ensure that this successful and popular comprehensive conforms to its idea of how the school ought to be run, in the face of almost total opposition from parents (over 1,300 have signed a petition, representing 84 per cent of the children), teachers, the local education authority and informed local opinion.

I hope the secretary of state can be persuaded to take proper cognisance of this in suitable amendment to the Education Reform Bill. Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLA GREGORY,  
64 Embscot Road, Warwick,  
February 1.

at weekends; not many teenage activities would involve them so totally and intensively.

Few of the pupils, I dare say, come from musical, or even music-loving backgrounds. If, as was discussed in a Department of Education consultative document last year, parents were required to pay for instrumental teaching, this enterprise and similar orchestras all over the country would be seriously threatened and a unique way of challenging the highest standards would disappear. I am, yours faithfully,  
MEREDITH DAVIES, Principal,  
Trinity College of Music,  
Mandeville Place, W1,  
January 28.

### Bull point

From Mr Iain Thornber  
Sir, The tale of a bull having to keep his head above water in search of insular female company (reports, January 27, 28) is indeed not without precedence in Hebridean history.

In the last century one regularly swam the 300 yard sound between Morvern and the island of Carna in Loch Sunart to discharge his duties although, unlike Bernie of Vatersay, he occasionally had a passenger.

It so happened that the parish doctor at the time, John MacLachlan, LRCP, of Rahoy (1804-74) was courting a girl on the same island. When there was no boat to be had, tradition states, this Highland Poiseidon used to cross the icy stretch of water on the bull's back, remarking once to some awestruck visitors, not being in the way of seeing Highland bulls made available in this manner, that their missions could be described as being somewhat similar.

Yours faithfully,  
IAIN THORNER,  
Knock House, Morvern,  
Oban, Argyll.

## Universities fear central control

From Sir Edward Parkes  
Sir, In his letter (February 3) Lord Annon argues for a particular structure of higher education to which he has long been wedded: one with a few elite institutions and a larger number of also-rans. Some of us who have been much concerned with the dynamics of departments and institutions would regard such an ossification as more likely to lead to obsolescence than progress.

Lord Annon also suggests that the Universities Funding Council proposed in the Government's Education Reform Bill is a necessary means to his end.

The universities accept that changes in the funding mechanism are needed. Our objection is much more fundamental: it is to the powers proposed for the secretary of state under the Bill. We think it unwise for a country whose past has been made by, and whose future must benefit from, free enquiry to put power in the hands of politicians and Civil Servants to end that freedom.

The detailed provisions of the Bill give power to Mr Baker and his successors (who may be of a quite different political hue) to require us to teach only Marxist history or to cease to research in embryology. It is to this that we object.

Yours sincerely,  
EDWARD PARKES  
(Vice-Chancellor, Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals),  
At: 14th Commonwealth Universities Congress,  
The University of Western Australia,  
Nedlands,  
Perth, Western Australia 6009,  
February 4.

## ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 5 1914

Mr Stephen Graham (1884-1975) whose speciality was life in pre-war Russia, the subject of several of his works. He sent a series of articles during a journey to Rostov and beyond.

## RETURNING TO RUSSIA

1. THE JOURNEY FROM PARIS TO KIEF.

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM.  
(Copyright in the United States of America.)

All night long from Paris to Cologne the train speeds like a bird, joyously screaming. I am in the carriage next to the engine, and as I lie full length in the darkened empty carriage I look out on snow-patched fields and hills, now partly obscured by wild volumes of vapour, now fiercely illumined by the glow of the furnace, the black sky raining showers of red sparks on to the vague night landscape, the engine racing forward past signal-boxes and stations, clattering along the changing points of the rails of junctions.

## GERMAN ORDERLINESS

We pass the Belgian frontier at 3 in the morning near Namur, and the German at Herbesthal in the dim glimmering before dawn. The world that becomes visible as the sun rises is the ordered world of the Germans. Everything is in prim, everything is as it should be... where houses are being pulled down or set up there is no disorder whatever; nothing is scattered about, everything is collected and numbered. At the little stations we pass through, the stationmaster in brilliant red and blue is standing erect at that point on the platform that it is his duty to occupy. On the train a woman in uniform has appeared. She has put 30 or 40 little tablets of soap and two dozen hand towels into the lavatory; she has picked up the bits of paper that lay scattered in the corridor all night; she has washed everything in the lavatory; put water in the cistern and boiled water in the carafe. The conductor, a well-groomed military man, has come and allotted us definitely numbered seats in the carriages and has seen that our respective hand-luggage occupies just that space in the rack which is above our numbered seats.

At Cologne there is just four minutes to cross the subway and get into the Berlin express...

It is just 14 months since I crossed Europe last; and as the lights in the train to the Russian frontier came on I noticed one interesting German change since last I traversed Germany. The gas has been taken out of the trains, electricity has been installed. There are no caps now to cover the light when you want to sleep, but instead you press either or both of the electric buttons to turn the light out...

When I got into the Russian train I found that, as before, there was neither gas nor electricity, but one safe and glimmering candle to light up six compartments full of people... At the Customs-house the baggage was submitted to a most rigorous examination... a slim girl of 25, a female expert, scrutinised all the clothes for things that men were not likely to see of themselves — embroidery, lace, silk underwear, neatly packed away Paris blouses, feathers, new costumes with artificial creases and tacked-in dirty linings...







BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

**BIRTHS**

**ADWALPARK** - On January 20th, 1988, a son, Christopher, to Elizabeth (nee Adams) and John Adwarpark, 246 Upper Richmond Rd, Putney, London SW15 6TG. Tel 01 878 2948.

**BLAKE** - On January 28th, to Heather (nee Webb-Bowen) and Martin, a daughter, Susanna Rose.

**CARLTON** - On January 13th in Paris to Vanessa (nee Cassidy Smith) and Christopher, a son, Thomas, a brother for Madison.

**CHRISTIAN** - On February 4th 1988, to Sharon (nee Davidson) and David, a son, Daniel Peter.

**CLARK** - On January 24th, to Marilyn and David, a son, Gabe Tatum, a brother for Adrian and Christopher.

**DAVIES** - On February 2nd 1988, to Catherine (nee Adams) and John, a son, William, a brother for James and Christopher.

**DODDS** - On January 22nd 1988, to Mary Margaret, to Richard (nee Dodds) and John, a daughter, Emily Mary.

**HATHAWAY-BOWLAND** - On January 24th, to Juliet and John, a son, Matthew James, a brother for Benjamin.

**KEMBLEY** - On February 1st, to Patricia and Jonathan, a son, Louis.

**LAWSON** - On February 3rd, 1988, to Trevor and Patricia, a daughter, Christopher, a daughter.

**MOORE** - On February 2nd, to Marion and David, a son, Gabe Tatum, a brother for Adrian and Christopher.

**NEVILLE** - On January 25th, to Sarah (nee Simpson) and David, a son, Mark Rupert.

**PILTZ** - On January 27th, to the Port of London Authority, a daughter, Claudia.

**PRESTON** - On January 23rd 1988, to Tania and Philip, a son, Felix George, a brother for Jack.

**REVERT-GARRAGH** - On February 4th, 1988, to Robert (nee Garragh) and Michael, a daughter, Philippa Jane, a daughter for Robert and Michael.

**WOOD** - On January 30th, to Alison (nee Wood) and Jonathan, a daughter, Edward.

**DEATHS**

**ADAMSON** - On February 1st, at Durham City, peacefully, Elvira, loving wife of the late Dr Robert Adamson and a devoted mother, grandmother and friend. Funeral Service St Oswald's Church, Durham City, on Friday, February 5th, at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Dr Adamson's Fund.

**ARMISTEAD** - On February 3rd 1988, peacefully at St. Andrew's, in his 81st year, George Bertram, eldest son of the late John and Mary Armstrong. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Durham City, on Friday, February 5th, at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to St. Andrew's Fund.

**CARRIS** - On January 31st 1988, Justin, tragically in a car accident near Forfar, with members of St. Andrew's University. Justin was a devoted son, brother, and friend. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Durham City, on Friday, February 5th, at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to St. Andrew's Fund.

**de JONH** - On February 3rd, peacefully at home, in his 80th year, John de JONH, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Durham City, on Friday, February 5th, at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to St. Andrew's Fund.

**WATSON** - On January 30th, peacefully at home, in his 80th year, John Watson, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Durham City, on Friday, February 5th, at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to St. Andrew's Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YACHTSMEN WANTED

YACHTSMEN WANTED  
This is a new and exciting way to earn money. We are looking for experienced yachtsmen to join our team. For full details telephone YCA, 0342-311366.

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THE TIMES PROPERTY GUIDE IN COLOUR  
This colour supplement has proved so successful that we have now planned regular issues to appear throughout 1988. A comprehensive guide to buying, selling, renting or improving your home. Don't miss out. For advertising details, please call: 01 481 1986 (trade).

RENTALS

THE TIMES PROPERTY GUIDE IN COLOUR

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This colour supplement has proved so successful that we have now planned regular issues to appear throughout 1988. A comprehensive guide to buying, selling, renting or improving your home. Don't miss out. For advertising details, please call: 01 481 1986 (trade).

RENTALS

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

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Shunning apartment comprising 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, set over 2 floors, reception, kitchen with open fire, quality furnishings. Available now Long Lets £550 pw. PALACE PROPERTIES 01-486 8926

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## THE ARTS

## TELEVISION

## Of faith and filth

Those of us who do not seek salvation through the Dextol bottle were comforted by two programmes on BBC2 last night which confirmed that godliness is certainly not always next to cleanliness.

First *North Korea* gave a brief, censored look at that ungodly, antisemitic country then *Forty Minutes* with *Thames Wallah*, an intriguing film about a Thames Water sewage expert working in India, showed the unfortunate communion between faith and filth in the holy but polluted waters of the Ganges.

North Korea certainly looked spotless, so clean in fact that you could safely — biologically if not politically — eat off the hundreds of shiny, bulbous statues of Kim Il Sung that litter the place.

The absurd personality cult surrounding the "Great Leader", a sick Marxist parody of the primitive worship of some omnipotent godhead, only emphasized the lack of both spirituality and personality in his country. Not surprisingly, neither was to be found among those North Koreans who were allowed by the authorities to mouth to camera their admiration for Kim and his son, the "Dear Leader".

The film, however, was not without its engaging characters. North Korea is technologically so backward that the machinery on view was delightfully heavy with clanking, clanking, cog-wheeling individuality.

The cleanliness of East Cheam's latest television personality, David Trigg, was no surprise. The godliness of this engaging sewage expert was. A reader of Sanskrit and a practised meditator, he brought to the river a deep understanding of its spiritual as well as aquatic qualities. The conflict between science and religion was more keenly felt, though, by an Indian hydraulic engineer who with mixed feelings dipped in parts of the Ganges Trigg would not be seen dead in — unlike, alas, some Indians.

Unfortunately, the first episode of *Dog Food Dan* and the *Carmichael Comedy* (BBC1), the latest work from David Nobbs, author of that seminal comedy, *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin*, proved that even seminal comedy writers can rise only to fall. There is only one way this lame tale of two dog-food lorry drivers dating unwittingly each other's wives can go.

Andrew Hislop

● Melvyn Tan is the fortissimo soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto in C minor with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on February 27. The programme includes Symphonies No 46 and No 82 by Haydn and it will be conducted from the first violin by Sigiswald Kuijken.

## Mischief maker

Michael Radford, director and co-writer of the film *White Mischief*, talks to Chris Peachment

Among young British film directors, Michael Radford is a rogue. None of his three films has been set in contemporary Britain: *Another Time, Another Place* was a wartime tale set in the Okavango, 1984 took place in a country of the mind, and now *White Mischief*, which opened this week, is set in the Kenya of the early Forties, where the last remnants of the Happy Valley set are indulging their taste for decadence far from the realities of the war in Europe. By choosing to make a film of James Fox's celebrated investigation into the question of who shot the philandering Earl of Errol in his Buick, Radford automatically set himself a major problem: the book reaches no conclusion. Film audiences are notoriously shy of movies with no ending (you will recall that in the book of *The Bridge Over the River Kwai* the bridge remains intact).

Radford comes down heavily in favour of the cuckolded husband Sir "Jack" Broughton (Joss Ackland), the man tried and acquitted for the murder. "I needed to cover my tracks," Radford says. "There are still the offspring of most of these people around, who, incidentally, were all abominably treated. Most of them were left behind in hotels in London without anyone to look after them. But once Broughton shoots his wife's dog after the trial, there should be no doubt as to his murderous potential."

It is easier to say what the film is not, rather than what it is. It is most certainly not *Out of Africa*; nor is it a conventional whodunit; nor can it be corralled under the usual rules governing "costume pics", even if the costumes are so handsome one half expects Meryl Streep to intone the famous opening line from *Out of Africa*: "I had a frock in Africa."

It is not even about Africa at all, in spite of Roger Deakin's glaring, hot photography of the dust and bright

light. "You come to realize that in the African consciousness, the European hardly figures at all. Historically, we just don't matter to them. I would rather that Africans made films about Africa. This is a film about a bunch of Europeans, who happen not to be in Europe."

Not just any Europeans either: the notorious Alice de Janzé (played by Sarah Miles as baty as a snake) tends to be found in the Ladies with a hypodermic in her arm rather than powdering her nose; an ordinary evening's entertainment out would involve everyone being cross-dressed. "People expect a romantic movie; but it was not in the power of these people to be romantic. They knew how to conduct themselves in public. But in private they were barely human." As a chronicle of bad behaviour, the film achieves a rare position of eminence in the annals of the normally polite British cinema. In recent history only *Dance With A Stranger* took such glee in distaste.

Aging British actors with a taste for the bottle are unlikely to sign up with Radford in future. After giving Richard Burton his final outing in 1984, he granted Trevor Howard the same courtesy in *White Mischief*. "He was about 30 years older than the character of Jack Soames, but he brought such a weight of historical reference to the part that he was perfect. He had trouble with learning lines, and he often wasn't very well, but deep down there was always that internal automatic pilot which switched on for the cameras."

The normally blue-eyed Charles Dance might be thought to be cast against type as the Earl of Errol; but the whiff of sulphur lingering from his appearance as the villain in *The Golden Child* seems to have blossomed into a full-blown hooded treachery combined with devastating attractiveness to the opposite sex. James Mason was the last British actor to exert such



Michael Radford, looking abroad for inspiration: "I am having my career scrutinized on the basis of three movies."

sadistic appeal. "Charles is a little bit ratty with me at the moment," says Radford, "because he wanted the role to have some redeeming features. The man does ask Diana Broughton to redeem him at one point, but his sincerity is always in question. But Charles is very solid."

"The person who gave me the toughest time was Sarah Miles. At one time I thought of writing the whole movie about Alice de Janzé, and I conceived her as someone melancholic and dreamy. Sarah came up with this tough, acidic, mad woman and would not be shifted. It taught me a lesson — that one must go the way the wind

blows, because she is undoubtedly very good. She has star quality, all right. When I first discussed the rushes with my editor, he said: 'You know who's going to come out of this looking best...?'

True to form, Radford is shooting his next film in Venezuela, based upon the novel *The Slow Train To Milan* by Lisa St Aubin de Teran. It is a wise move. The contemporary English landscape is not very inspiring, if films like *Sammy and Rosie* are anything to go by. And film makers who have opted to stay within the confines of the British film industry do not fare well. From

Michael Powell to Lindsay Anderson, they are lost, forgotten or ignored for too long a period in their careers.

"When I left film school in the mid Seventies," Radford says, "there was a real change, a feeling that anything was possible. I am now having my career scrutinized on the basis of three movies. Bergman probably didn't make a decent film until his fifteenth. You are incredibly restricted in what is possible. TV has had this numbing effect upon the aesthetic. What people accept now is less than what they would have accepted 30 years ago."

## Pure and true

## THEATRE

## Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

National Theatre  
Lyttelton

Howard Davies, the director of this splendid and overdue revival, is clearly right in relating Tennessee Williams's play to the inarticulate rebels of the Fifties, America's "scoundrel years".

He could equally have called it Williams's *Hamlet* or *Hippolytus*. And now that the sinister word "normality" is creeping back into our political vocabulary, it is also a work for today. "It was a pure true thing", Williams's hero

says of his relationship with the dead Skip: "and that's not normal".

The interesting thing is that Williams named the play not after Brick, its alcoholic-forming sporting hero, but after his sexually frustrated wife a figure who occupies the central position in only one of the three acts, and whom Brick has rejected for a supposed treachery.

The piece pulsates with classical echoes, throws up archetypes of its own, and delivers a ferocious portrait of social mendacity. And yet it appears under a joke title applying to a seemingly marginal character.

That supplies a clue to the greatness of this author. Williams was certainly not lacking in social conscience, but he never indulged himself in delivering sermons. He has too much respect for his characters, and his saving weakness was that he could never resist a joke.

Here we are in a palatial plantation home on the occasion of Big Daddy's sixty-fifth birthday. Before the evening is over, his off-stage screams from terminal cancer will resound through the upstairs tragic doorway; Brick will have put down; lethal quantity of liquor, and his brother's family will have revealed themselves as a pack of vultures.

It sounds an ugly and depraved fable. But in performance what strikes you is the common humanity under the Southern gestures, and the way in which the most extravagant intensity peels off into jokes.

"Keep your chin up, Big Mama," somebody advises, at the news of her spouse's forthcoming demise; "both of



Ian Charleson and Lindsay Duncan in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*

them". As for what the play is saying: Brick may represent the moral centre in his loathing for the lies that poison the household, but as Maggie points out, he has only the "charm of defeat". She earns pride of place as the fighter.

One achievement of the opening duologues is that, although they consist mainly of retrospective material, they convert exposition into present tense conflict. It is partly a matter of rhythm, as brilliantly demonstrated by Davies's actors.

The first is a duel between hyperactivity and inertia. Lindsay Duncan's Maggie bubbles with inexhaustible volubility, spite mixing with self-analysis, desire and envy, but miraculously converting every negative trait into sympathetic honesty. Ian Charleson's Brick partners her, sunk into unreachable indifference that breaks only

when she mentions Skip, at which point his crutch turns into an offensive weapon.

In the matching scene that follows, he presents the same front to Eric Porter's Big Daddy, and love changes its tone from seduction to aggression. This has the useful effect of compelling Brick to show his hand, especially on the question of inheritance. "I do not care," As Charleson delivers it, that is the most passionate line in the show.

Throughout the piece, the duologues are punctuated with the sight of Southern fecklessness: wonderfully sent up by Alison Steadman as the rival daughter-in-law, and her repellent brood, with their rehearsed birthday celebrations and red-neck games. It may not be normal to such scenes of family life; but what a punch they pack.

Irving Wardle

## Love's eddy and swirl

## Seascape With Sharks and Dancer

Finborough Theatre

Like the sea itself, presumed to be somewhere nearby though never heard and seldom mentioned, the motions of this old American love story seem to be going nowhere in particular. For longish stretches of time, the bubbles of dialogue eddy and swirl, holding the attention from moment to moment, until quite suddenly, in the course of a speech by the girl, Tracy (Holly de Jong), the tide is discovered to have been flooding in all this while, changing everything. All-powerful love that cannot be denied.

Tracy is the dancer of the title, and practising her art is

what she insists she was doing when Ben (Christopher Millburn) hauled her out of the water: not drowning but dancing. Asked to tell a story she obliges with her own (thereby speeding the narrative), taking it up to her recent visit to the Aquarium on Coney Island. This brings the first mention of sharks, symbols of the terror that stalks New York, America and her whole alarming world.

She insists him, calls him a cuss for not trying to rape her and knocks him across his blue, book-littered floor when he takes her hand. Veering between Pathos and snappy bravado, her crazy reversals of mood deter him not one whit, and even a kick in the pants fails to wipe off his bright, attentive smile.

He is an unpublished writer (of course) and in his dreams there are no people. That

completes our knowledge of his background, and the play's author, Don Nigro, chooses to present him as a human stone wall, behind which he keeps his secret heart, on which he has hung a banner declaring "I Will Always Love You", and against which she thumps and shouts and injures herself in vain.

As a demonstration that dogged devotion captures the frantic wait the play carries no conviction, but Holly de Jong certainly makes you believe in the reality of Tracy's love-scarred past. In a performance that Gerard Murphy's direction tempers sensitively to this small theatre-in-the-round, a radiance of felt pain illumines her pale monkeyface when she talks of trust betrayed and little kittens wandering innocently on to busy roads.

Jeremy Kingston

## An American in Italy

The third and last concert in the English Chamber Orchestra's "Italian Inspiration" series offered the perfect excuse, if ever one was needed, to build a programme around the voice of the American soprano Arleen Auger.

Donizetti, Bellini and Rossini were selected to epitomize the travelling Italians of the early 19th century; and Ms Auger gave us a subtle taste of each composer's differing flavour of *bel canto* style.

Norina's celebration of seduction in her "Quel guardo il cavaliere" from *Don Pasquale* showed Donizetti transforming notes into sly smiles and coy moments of teasing, as Auger lightly caught the thread of each phrase, bouncing the vowels

## CONCERTS

## ECO/Leppard

Queen Elizabeth Hall

along its lines and out-fluting the flute.

If the orchestra, under Raymond Leppard, were not quite arm-in-arm at this stage, then they treated the voice as the fragile, vulnerable creature it is in Bellini's "Oh! quanto volte". Auger sang the first stanza of Ginepri's chaste, yearning aria in an unbroken half-voice, and got to the very centre of Bellini's nerve system in her tense, halting

recitative and final, breath-moulded *sospir*.

Her Rossini's "Bel raggio lunghier" needs projecting with much more vocal muscle: its light must dazzle not merely glow.

It was a nice idea to frame Ms Auger's arias with symphonies by Boccherini and Cherubini. The wonderfully inventive and transparent string writing of Boccherini's Op 12 No 1 in D stimulated the ECO into their most lively playing, and Leppard made a delectable 18th century pastiche of the slow introduction, delicately threaded with the sweet oboe playing of Nicholas Daniel.

Hilary Finch

## Debussy's ups and downs

BBC PO/Downes  
Free Trade Hall,  
Manchester

At first it seemed as though Edward Downes was determined to avoid the tired old notion of Debussy being delicate and effete. *L'Après Midi d'un Faune* was hard-edged and analytical, utterly lacking in magic or subtlety of texture. But perhaps it is dangerous to open a concert with a work that needs such fluid, relaxed playing and relies so heavily on the creation of an atmosphere. Later on though, *Jeu* turned out just as unsatisfactory. It was difficult to

imagine anyone being able to dance to a performance so completely lacking in wit, accurately performed though much of it was.

And strangely enough — or not, depending on how you look at it — Tippett's Second Symphony lacked the hard edges and the spring that make it potentially one of his most attractive works. There was fine individual playing, especially in the gentle but exposed textures of the slow movement; but there was little passion or sense of direction.

Nevertheless, Tippett's Piano Concerto made the concert a memorable occasion. This is hardly one of his

most successful pieces; and the performance, under the composer himself, was far from technically perfect. But Sir Michael was notably successful in giving it a clear shape. One received a vivid impression of where every detail fitted into the larger design. His soloist was David Wilde who often played as though taking a part in chamber music. That seems to be the right approach for the first articulated reading of the slow movement. And their up-tempo spin through the finale was truly spellbinding.

David Fallows

## LONDON DEBUT

Concerto opportunities with reputable London orchestras come rarely to young artists, so perhaps the American pianist Thomas Dickinson should have chosen something more flamboyant than Mozart's masterly but restrained Concerto in A, K414, for his London debut. His performance revealed composure, technical assurance and taste. The articulation was neat and intelligent, and each movement was allowed to build from coolness towards some well-judged cadenzas.

Missing from the slow movement was any element of care in the touch or fantasy in the approach. One would have welcomed a little more impishness in the finale, too; and perhaps one would have received it if Dickinson had been spurred on by a less phlegmatic conductor than John Lubbock. The Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square, gave adequate support to the proceedings.

Richard Morrison

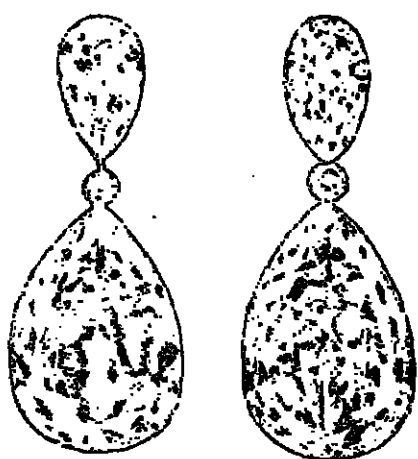
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## FRIDAY PAGE

# 'In the week we celebrated 70 years since we got the vote, the most attention we compelled was by swinging on nylon ropes'

For several months I have been reading about the problems of bullying in the British Army. I have kept my thoughts to myself on the basis that a line has to be drawn somewhere and the Government did not need me to tell them how to run the Army. Then Roger Freeman, the Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, came up with his solutions, which included calling in the Women's Royal Voluntary Service to act as "mother-figures" to victimised recruits. That did it. I had a quick read through Tennyson's "Ulysses".

"Do you think," I asked my sister, "that agony aunts in the British Army for scared recruits are what Tennyson meant, when he said: 'By slow prudence to make mild/A rugged people, and thro' soft degrees/Subdue them to the useful and the good'?" My sister would not take the bait and kept her counsel.

Two things have to be acknowledged. If you have an army in which some people have power over others — from the sergeant to the brigadier — there is no doubt that martinis will exist and will use their power in a needless way or, satistically, Good armies weed out excesses by tough disciplinary procedures like courts martial.

But the second thing to acknowledge is that bullying (unless carried to a certain

excess) has a purpose. It is a natural process that selects and deselects those who are tough enough to be warriors and also instils the kind of obedience necessary under battle conditions. It is all very well to respond to an instruction in corporate life with an alternative suggestion, but that kind of debate is not helpful under missile-attack conditions.

I would do a lot to avoid being in the army, not just because I am a coward, alas, but because I would find being trained to be obedient and being bullied quite hideous. One can't argue for the pleasantness of this procedure but only to the purpose and necessity of it. Freeman and I, though, obviously part company on this. He has decided to ban all violent and humiliating initiation rituals, and will try to weed out the weaker recruits at entry. Inside the army, any further trouble would be headed off by the mother-figures attached to each battalion, together with new efforts to train extra-humane NCOs.

There was a court martial last week in Shropshire which had some rather sensational aspects. The accused, a corporal at the time, was convicted this week of forcing young soldiers to swallow shampoo, of beating them with a broom handle and of hitting two recruits with a baseball bat while their heads were in dustbins.

Although his convictions are under appeal, it sounded to me as if he deserved a court martial. There is a big difference between bullying with the company commander's approval, for example making everyone take a cold shower and run around football fields in their underwear — in order to distress iron, as it were, and get steel — and the undisciplined sadism of one individual.

But even the bizarre acts of the corporal didn't really sound particularly awful. Surely our parents and grandparents back to the Battle of Hastings have had to undergo initiation rites as silly and sickening as swallowing shampoo? Bullying in the army was actually a form of crude psychology that calculated whether a soldier would probably withstand the enemy in proportion to his ability to withstand his own sergeant. Carried to excess it is probably counter-productive, but I have absolutely no doubt that it has a tempering effect. If anything, one feels that initiation rites



BARBARA AMIEL

on their best behaviour in front of one another. But the idea that women will be there for soldiers to confide in, about the difficulties they are having with nasty sergeants, is adding insult to injury. Not only are our present soldiers unable to handle what their ancestors have for the past hundreds of years, but must they also have their nappies changed?

Perhaps this scheme is part of the unending muddle which demonstrates not only that women have an equal opportunity in the army but have some form of

statistical parity. Perhaps this is simply a way of trying to place women in battalions to please an Equal Opportunities Commission study. Of course, there have always been limited numbers of women, from Pallas Athene to Joan of Arc not to mention the Amazons, who distinguished themselves on the battlefield. Florence Nightingale had her place, as did Mata Hari in her traditional role as an intelligence gatherer. But when you have to employ large numbers of women in the army that haven't the skills to be Florence Nightingale let alone Mata Hari, you may try to find a role for them where they can do the least amount of damage. Hence the new brigade of agony aunts.

Earlier this week one wondered if women were not showing some battlefield spunk when a group of lesbians mounted a commando-style attack on the House of Lords over Clause 28, the clause which seeks to prevent local authorities from using taxpayers' money for the intentional promotion of homosexuality. None of the women had ever used ropes before and they seemed to know very little about how to do a fairly simple descent. But they were game enough. "I was quite frightened," said Ms Stella Blair. "But it was not very hard." I don't know whether or not Clause 28

might need to be better worded so that it could not be used to prevent exhibitions of David Hockney's art or other idiosyncrasies of moral censorship, but the thrust of the bill is perfectly liberal. It simply says that homosexuals have the right to their freedom of choice in sexual predilection but not the right to my moral approval — or my tax money to promote it. What the rope swingers of the House of Lords do not seem to understand is that when they wanted the freedom and liberty, as adults, to do whatever they wanted in their sexual lives, all we liberals could stand shoulder to shoulder with them. But the minute they achieved this, some lesbians and homosexuals wanted to go a step further and wished not only to be free but to be cherished, admired and subsidized.

Well, for my money, no pressure group in society has a right to compel approval. This society is not yet homophobic and heterosexuality is the norm. Meanwhile, the whole brouhaha was just some more mud in the eye for women as the week wore on. Yesterday we celebrated 70 years since women got the vote and the most attention we compelled this week was by getting into a twist along the walls of the House of Lords, swinging on white nylon ropes. Some of us most certainly have "come a long way, baby" and perhaps it is time to start moving back.

## Fruits of the family

Rachel Billington, daughter of Lord Longford, is very much concerned with family ties and, in her latest novel, with a family torn apart. Libby Purves met her

"What I like best is starting novels," Rachel Billington says. "I love that moment where it's all floating free and I can do anything. By two-thirds of the way through, when you've created the characters, you're limited in what you can make them do. I enjoy the time when I don't know what will happen."

She hates synopses and forward planning: each story grows under her hands like a clay model. "The hardest thing is finishing a novel, these days. We're all scheduled not to believe in formal shapes and neat endings. Sometimes I wish I was writing in the 19th century. As soon as a novel is finished and published, I always find that I can see its faults and weaknesses only too clearly. They're different with each one."

From all of which you may deduce that Lady Rachel Billington, née Pakenham — daughter of the Earl of Longford and author of 10 novels and a number of plays and children's books — stands firmly in the long tradition of finicky, conscientiously naturalistic English novelists.

'I have to use what lies to hand, the lives I know best'

which began with Jane Austen and seems unlikely to end.

She comes of a large family which fires off books with machine-gun regularity: Lord Longford on world figures, Elizabeth Longford's historical biographies, Antonia Fraser's *Jennings* who-didn't and popular histories, and Thomas Pakenham's scholarly ones. Rebecca Fraser is the first of a bevy of Longford grandchildren to have worked published.

In all this band of authors only Billington has turned to fiction seriously and devoted herself with careful craftsmanship to the "proper" novel. Setting aside the usual question of what on earth it was that the Longford parents used to put in the children's *Farex* to produce this literary compulsion, the publication of this week of her tenth novel, *Loving Attitudes*, seems worth attention.

Her subject, for one thing, is painfully topical during the present debates about abortion and about the state of marriage. It is a simple story about a woman of 40, who gave up a baby for adoption when she was 18, and subsequently married and had

another daughter and a successful career. The adopted child tracks down her mother, returns, and creates emotional havoc in the lives of her real mother and father, her step-sister and boyfriend, and her mother's unfortunate husband.

It is a story you could treat with melodrama, with high morality, with comedy, irony, or gruesome sentimentalism. Billington has chosen a sort of detached, formalized irony. "I have written more emotionally — in *Occasion of Sin* I was hanging over the shoulder of the woman all the time, and very close to her. But I hate self-indulgently breast-beating books, and this subject could have been like that. I wanted to write sharply, not in a maudlin manner. Maybe I went a bit far in the other direction and didn't make it caring enough."

Her treatment is certainly sharp and clear: the adopted daughter's point of view is only very lightly sketched, and the main interest lies in the return of a woman's past. "The daughter's coming back is a way of suddenly bringing back the past, from 20 years ago, making a woman in middle age reappraise her situation. After all, by the time they're 40, people have a long past, full of loving families and children as well as lovers..."

Her heroine, presented with her old memories, breaks out in a fairly extreme manner, tracking down her lost lover (now a rather depressed managing director approaching retirement) and generally proving the point that inside every mature, responsible career-woman of 40 is a daft, lovesick teenager struggling to get out.

It is entertaining and well-patterned writing: if one were to carp, one might say that, like rather too many other modern novels, it is set among an irritatingly leisured and affluent class of people in glamorous professions (the law and the media). The author admits, a little gloomily, that this is true. "Yes, it's very tiresome. I get bored of it, too. But I can't help it here I am." She indicates the Holland Park house where she lives with her husband, the director Kevin Billington. "It's where I am placed in life, and I have four children and can't go off like George Orwell and find out, by living it, the life of a woman in one room at King's Cross."

"I have to use what lies to hand, the lives I know best. But surely if you write about love, death and spiritual renewal, these are the same however pretty the drawing-



Starting off: Rachel Billington, for whom the fun of writing a novel is the first sentence

room and however many windows in your house? Actually," she adds, more cheerfully, "I'm setting my next novel in the 18th century, to get away from all these drawing-rooms."

Certainly it is not altogether a comedy of middle-class manners. The main fascination of the book lies in its theme of family ties. The girl

'If you're Catholic people think you've stopped thinking'

who arrives on the doorstep looks unlike, yet like, her half-sister; she contains her natural father as well as the distraught mother. None of them can get away from her, because of the simple fact of kinship.

This consciousness is not surprising in a member of the Longford tribe. "I am, tremendously and inevitably, conscious of family ties," she says. "I can't imagine what it would be like not having your main

friendships dominated by family — if you have six brothers and sisters, 21 nieces and nephews and endless aunts and cousins, quite a lot of time is used up before you can get round to non-related friends."

"I went to a party at my brother's the other day, and by the time I'd said hello to Antonia, Harold, Thomas, Paddy and his girlfriend, Kevin and my mother and father, there actually wasn't time left to talk to anyone else. I think that the family is central, and I only haven't written a novel about a big family because it would have to be so long."

The idea of a woman giving up a natural child for adoption is clearly, though she does not say it in so many words, particularly horrifying to her. "I'm glad I never had to make such a decision. I was reading something about abortion the other day and someone said that to abort a child you didn't want to keep was the sign of a truly caring mother. It was terrible. But I could see what she meant."

fit of having effective mechanisms which can help to make the still small voice of consumers heard.

But there is another old unresolved core in the health service in connection with the use of patients' money in long-stay institutions. It is taken from them and banked by officials who sometimes wrongly call it pocket money. It must now amount to millions of pounds and the people to whom it belongs have a right to spend it for themselves. The Government knows this and produced a generally unacceptable formula years ago. Since when, silence.

There is a serious face, hidden by the mask of Comic Relief

More than two million people have a red nose. Tonight they can wear it proudly as they sit in front of their televisions, watching *Comic Relief's* television of comedy. Each nose costs 50p, the price of inoculating an African child against preventable diseases, such as measles.

It sounds very easy: buy a red nose (from Wimpy restaurants or Oxfam and Save The Children shops) and help to save a child's life. Charity often seems more complicated than that. Things interfere with a direct gift from the donor to the needy, and the donor, instead of feeling the warm glow of giving, feels discouraged and thwarted by the complexities of the situation. No one wants to watch suffering that they feel powerless to alleviate. This is something that Helen Fielding understands well.

Fielding, aged 29, is the producer of the serious side of *Comic Relief's* four documentaries (two filmed in Africa and two in Britain), which will be interspersed with the comic turns to show us what it is all for, particularly in Africa.

Through *Save The Children* and *Oxfam* projects, the films show what has been achieved in Ethiopia and Sudan since the famine of 1984. "One of the biggest problems in bringing aid to Ethiopians is transport," Fielding says. "More than 80 per cent of Ethiopians live out of reach of a road. Now there is a transport operation, with mechanics out there training the Ethiopians. Nobody can turn round and say 'the money donated was wasted'."

Obviously, the dream of any charity house is to reduce the enthusiasm and fervour which opened so many wallets

## Behind the red noses



Film aid: Helen Fielding

for *Live Aid*, and inspired the first *Comic Relief* in 1985. Fielding believes that red of feeling is still there in British people, waiting to be tapped. She has used two comedians, Lenny Henry and Griff Rhys Jones, as her front men in Ethiopia and Sudan, "because they aren't news reporters with a lot of background knowledge, so people can feel that their reactions would be the same as their own. In the end, whatever the complicated causes of famine, the humanitarian approach — one person giving to another — is the only one you can take."

Rhys Jones spent a week with the nomadic Beja tribe in Sudan. The people depend on their animals, most of which died during the 1984 famine. *Comic Relief* will help support Oxfam's five-year project of supplementary feeding, so that

the people can put all their resources into buying animals, rather than having to kill them to eat.

Fielding first went to Africa in 1985 to make a documentary for the BBC. "When I came back I went to Oxfam, and said I wanted to work as a field worker. They said I was more useful where I was, that I should put across the developmental message, so that's what I've tried to do."

She promptly left the BBC after eight years in current affairs and comedy, with the intention of making as many films in Africa as possible. Last year she was in the south of Sudan, making a documentary for Thames Television's *This Week* series, called *Hunger is a Weapon*.

Her self-designated task of educating the public in the importance of giving money to independent, capable adults rather than helpless, starving babies is not easy. "Oxfam have found it difficult, because people respond to that helpless image. We want to change people's feelings about Africans as passive, faceless, hungry figures, and show them as proud, intelligent adults."

The juxtaposition of her films and the comedy slots might sound a little jarring. "I don't think it will be a problem," Fielding says. "The films are serious, and some are sad, but they are energetic."

"Rather than reporting a disaster, we are quite definitely putting across a positive view, showing what can be done. It's very important that the British public continues to give to the aid agencies."

Sally Mouldsdale

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Comic Relief is on BBC1 tonight from 7.35pm-3.55am.

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# TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davale

## BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM.  
6.35 Edgar Kennedy in *Goggle Water* (b/w). 6.55 Weather.  
7.00 Breakfast Time includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.  
8.30 *Lawrence and Shirley*. American comedy series. 8.55 Regional news and weather followed by *Open Air*. Eamonn Holmes receives viewers' comments on yesterday's television output.  
9.30 *Kinky*. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject.  
10.00 News and weather followed by *Going for Gold* (r). 10.25 Children's BBC begins with *Play School* (r), and *The Wombles* (r).  
10.55 *Five to Eleven*. A reading by Cathy Nutter. 11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. 12.00 *Daytime Live*. Magazine series. 12.55 Regional news and weather.  
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. Weather 1.30.  
1.50 *From This Day Forward* (1986, b/w) starring Joan Fontaine and Mark Stevens. The story of a young couple's struggles to make ends meet in 1930s New York. Directed by John Berry.  
3.25 *Ask Marge*. Marge MacDonald with citizens' rights advice. 3.35 *The Magic of the House*. Frank Delaney talks to novelist Lucy M. Boston.  
3.50 *Comedy*. 4.10 *Yog Bhai* (r). 4.15 *Jackanory*. Jonathan Morris with part five of *Dick King-Smith's Saddlebottom*. The teams compete on a climbing wall, administer first aid to a partner and undergo a hectic pedalling session.  
4.55 *Newsweek Extra*. Why so many British schoolchildren have become vegetarians.

- 5.05 *Grange Hill*. Episode 10 (of 20). (Costs) 5.25 *Neighbours* (r).  
6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.  
7.00 *Wogan* with the Bee Gees, Sir Anthony Quayle, Bill Beaumont and Gareth Edwards and Professor Christine Davies of Reading University.  
7.35 *A Night of Comic Relief* presented by Lenny Henry and Cliff Rixens Jones (see choice). Beginning with *Left Off* featuring Jonathan Ross, Jim Davidson, Rod Hull and Stavros.  
8.00 *A Question of Sport* meets *Spitting Image* (see choice).  
8.30 *Wood, Walters...* and *Wise*. Victoria Wood and Julie Walters are joined by Ernie Wise who introduces a *Morecambe and Wise* classic.  
9.00 *News*.  
9.30 *Jasper Carrott Meets Blackadder*. (see choice).  
10.00 *Deaf, Aunty, Jimmy Perry* introduces a vintage episode - *The Royal Train*.  
10.30 *Corbett, Gamett, Palin and Cook*. Ronnie, Alf, Michael and Phil entertain.  
11.00 *Dame Edna Everage*. Arrives... followed by French and Saunders.  
11.30 *Cannery*. Ball and A-Bird includes plate smashing, a comedy fashion show commended by Pamela Stephenson and a special edition of *New Statesman*.  
12.00 *Ben Elton Live* with Hale and Pearce. Emma Thompson and Robbie Coltrane.  
1.00 *Slapstick*. Son and Son. Simpson introduces a classic episode - *Come Dancin'*.  
1.30 *Sign Off*. Lenny and Griff with the final amount of money raised.  
2.00 *Film: The Bed Sitting Room* (1969) starring Ralph Richardson. An adaptation of John Aronson and Spike Milligan's play set in post nuclear war London. Directed by Richard Lester. Ends 3.35.

## BBC2

- 9.00 *Ceefax* 9.30 *Daytime on Two*: the NHS in Scotland. 9.52 *Aerial* about pigeon racing. 10.15 *Glasgow*. 10.30 *Information Technology*. 11.00 *Styrene*. 11.15 *Wonderman*. 11.30 *Man's attempts at flying*. 12.00 *The voices of four black writers*. 12.35 *Scene 1.05 France* and the French. 1.20 *Two programmes for the very young*. 1.55 *Social realism*. 2.00 *News* and weather followed by a series for four- and five-year-olds.  
2.15 *Sport on Friday*. Indoor Hockey: the final of the *Lada British Cities* championship. Rallying: a preview of the *Monte Carlo Rally*. Football: a tribute to Duncan Edwards. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50.  
4.00 *Catchword* presented by Paul Cole. 4.30 *River Journeys*. The Rio San Francisco (r). (Ceefax) 5.30 *Food and Drink* (r).  
6.00 *Film: Shogun*. Holmes and the Spider Woman (1944, b/w) starring Basil Rathbone. An evil woman uses killer spiders to carry out her deadly deeds. Directed by Roy William Neill.

- 7.00 *The Western Star Domino Club* (r).  
7.30 *Scene Plays: Your Place or Mine?* Huw has to give up his room and stay in a caravan when two girls on holiday come to stay (r).  
8.00 *The Friday Report: A Design for Life*. An interview with the president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Rod Hickey.  
8.30 *Gardens*. (b/w) from the gardens of the Royal National Rose Society at St Albans.  
9.00 *Arena: The Emperor*. Jonathan Miller's version of the Russian Kapuskine play produced for the Royal Court Theatre. It is the story of corruption and intrigue in the palace of Haila Selasse, Emperor of Ethiopia immediately before his overthrow.  
10.30 *Newsnight* 11.15 *Weather*.  
11.30 *Film: Them!* (1954, b/w) starring James Whitmore and Edmund Gwenn. Thriller about the hunt for a host of marauding giant ants who are terrorizing the good people of New Mexico. Directed by Gordon Douglas. Ends at 12.55am.

## ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am begins with cartoons and a comedy series followed by 7.00 and 8.00 for half-an-hour. Good morning Britain presented by Richard Keys. After Nine includes astrology from Russell Grant.  
9.25 *Thames News*.  
9.30 *Give Us a Clue*. Celebrity mime game presented by Michael Parkinson. This morning, Lionel Blair and Liza Goddard are joined by Lennie Bennett, Prunella Gee, Hings and Brackett, Michael Howe, Karl Howman 10.00 *Santa Barbara* 10.25 *News headlines*.  
10.30 *The Time...* The Place. Mike Scott chairs a discussion on the increasing risk facing children with out-of-school hours work. 11.10 *Football* (r). 11.25 *Thames news headlines*.  
11.30 *New Way of Living*. Profiles of a woman who became a probation officer after an adult education course and a man, after being made redundant, found his talents suited to the community care field (r). 12.00 *Gas Street*. Music and chat show presented by Suzi Quatro.  
12.30 *News* with Julia Somerville. 12.55 *Thames news 1.00 Chain Letters*.  
1.30 *Film: Red Mountain* (1951) starring Alan Ladd and Elizabeth Scott. American Civil War drama about a Confederate captain who joins General Grant's guerrillas to help them in one last bid to help defeat the Unionists. Directed by William Dieterle.  
3.00 *Gems*. Drama serial set in London's rag trade. 3.25 *Thames news headlines*. 3.30 *Sons and Daughters*.  
4.00 *The Raggy Dolls* (r). 4.10 *Film: The Raggy Dolls*.  
4.45 *Splash*. Five young hopefuls try to get three goals past Peter Shilton; trampolining as a winter sport; and young fashion.

- 5.15 *Blockbusters*. General knowledge quiz game. 5.45 *News* with Fiona Armstrong. 6.00 *The 6 O'Clock Show* presented by Michael Aspel. 7.00 *The Price is Right*. Game show introduced by Leslie Crowther. 8.00 *Me & My Girl*. Simon and Derek are rivals for the attentions of an attractive new office neighbour while Samantha takes a shine to someone who has come to live next door. Starring Richard O'Sullivan, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Joanna Farrow. 8.30 *Tales of the Unexpected*. Blue Marigold. Toyah Wilcox stars as Margold, a top model who tramples on anyone who gets in her way. The film is irreplaceable (r). (Oracle) 9.00 *Floodtide*. Drama serial. Lambert is trailed by the police while Ramsey continues his investigations into the cocaine dealing in Cotford. Starring Philip Sawyer. (Oracle) 10.00 *News* and weather. 10.30 *News* and weather. 10.55 *Thames News*. 11.00 *The London Programme*. Margaret Hodge, widely acknowledged as the most important Labour politician in London, is interviewed about Labour's chances of surviving the government's blitz on Labour council. 11.05 *South of Watford*. John Lloyd meets seven young designers - Tom Dixon, Andre Dubreuil, Peter Mortimer, Nigel Dyer, Taylor and Wolf and Winifred Scheuer. 11.35 *Police Precinct*. Muriel becomes involved in a drugs case. 12.30 *News*. 1.00 *Night Network*. Videos, pop music, guests and competitions. 4.00 *J Hooker*. Hooker hunts for a victim who specialises in murdering 'bad ladies'. 4.55 *Temple Bowling*. The American Professional Bowling Association's autumn tour of Taylor. Ends at 6.00.

## CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 *Schools*. 12.00 *Business Daily*. 12.30 *Abacadabra* examines satellites (r). 1.00 *On Course*. Weekly Open. 2.00 *The Prisoners*. Magazine. 2.30 *Heritage*. Conversations with Bill Moyers. The final programme of the series and the guests are Stephen Adams Eban and author Cyril Connolly. 3.30 *Time to Remember* (b/w). 1939 and a wonderful summer ends with a declaration of war (r). 4.00 *News* and weather. 4.30 *Film: The Raggy Dolls*. 4.45 *Splash*. Five young hopefuls try to get three goals past Peter Shilton; trampolining as a winter sport; and young fashion.

- 7.50 *Book Choices*. Auberon Waugh, editor of *The Literary Review*, reviews Tom Wolfe's *The Bonfire of the Vanities*. (Oracle) 8.00 *What the Papers Say*. Awards from London's Savor Hotel. 8.30 *Dispersal*. Mary Holland interviews John Stalker. 9.00 *The Cosby Show*. American domestic comedy series. (Oracle) 9.30 *The Wine Programme*. Harry Waud talks to Janice Robinson about Burgundies (r). (Oracle) 10.00 *The Golden Girls*. Award-winning American comedy series. (Oracle) 10.30 *Aids News*. This penultimate programme of the series examines the problems facing Africa. (Oracle) 11.30 *Ghosts in the Machine*. Part three of the 20-programme series of original video and film work (r). 12.10am *Film: Poulet au Vinaigre* (1984) starring Jean Poiret and Stephanie Audran. A thriller about an unorthodox police inspector investigating a murder in a small French town. Directed by Claude Chabrol. Ends at 2.10.

# Cashing in on laughter

## TELEVISION CHOICE

The ostensible purpose of the eight hours of Comic Relief (BBC1, 7.35pm) is to encourage viewers to dip into their pockets, or activate their credit cards, for the famine victims of Ethiopia and the Sudan. But anyone chancing on the tapes 50 years from now should get a very clear idea of the state of British television comedy in the late 1980s. Almost every name you can think of is involved in some way, from Lenny Henry to Wood and Walters, Jasper Carrott and Dame Edna. *Blackadder* continues its irreverent romp through British history by dropping in on the Cavalier Years. Apart from the usual delights, there is a delicious Charles I from Stephen Fry, who sounds plausibly like the future Charles III with a touch of Donald Sinden. For *A Question of Sport Meets Spitting Image*, the plastic puppetry switches channels and lampoons the likes of David Coleman, Mike



Barry McGuigan, Daley Thompson and Mike Gating with their Spitting Image other-selves: BBC1, 8.00pm

Gating, Barry McGuigan and Daley Thompson. The real Coleman, Gating and so on appear as well and take it gamely on the chin. But what will the viewer of 50 years hence make of all those jokes about Pakistani umpires? Will he wonder who Frank Bruno's friend Harry was? Will he wonder who Frank Bruno was? In the middle of all the wisecracking, it may be difficult to come back to reality.

## Radio

- Radio 1**  
MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below).  
6.00 *Concert: Saint-Saens* (Dense macabre: Paris Orchestre under Pierre Dervaux). Gluck (Dance of the Blessed Spirits). Grieg (Havens), and von Bülow (Nirvana).  
6.45 *Choral Voices*: Exon Singers perform Peter Dinklage's *Three motets*, Op 15; and Hans Leo Hassler's *O Sacram Communion*; O Domine Deus. Chorus: more recordings featuring the jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli, including his collaboration with Jean-Luc Ponty, Duke Ellington, and Joe Venuti.  
7.00 *News bulletin*.  
7.35 *Concert (cont'd)*: Goldmark (In Italy overture: Budapest PO under Antonio Korodi), Correll (Concerto Grosso in G minor, Op 6 No 8, performed by I Musici); and Monteverdi's *Zefiro torna* (with singers Nigel Rogers and Ian Partridge, and instrumentalists conducted by Jürgen Jürgens). Also: Martin's *Frescoes of Piero* (Soprano: (Soprano) and Ian Partridge, and instrumentalists conducted by Jürgen Jürgens).  
8.35 *Composers of the Week*: Bach. Partita No 2 in C minor, BWV 826 (Trevor Pinnock, harpsichord). Trio-Sonata No 6 (Ton Koopman organ), cantata No 84 (Vienna Concentus Musicus, with Wilhelm Fiedt, treble), and recitative and aria (Dr Glickman baritone).  
9.35 *Oslo Piano Trio*: Mozart (Trio in B flat, K 502), Ravel (Trio in E flat, Op 2), Mendelssohn (Trio No 2) 11.10 *French Romantic Songs*: Nigel Rogers (tenor) with Paul Rogers (piano). Works by Debussy, Massenet, Reynier, Lalo, Saint-Saens, Bizet (Le Matin, La Nuit, Chanson d'automne, and Massenet (Incluse Elegie, and A Mignonne).  
11.50 *Shostakovich: BBC Proms*. Rostropovich under Rudolf Serkin, with Eric Grunberg (violin), Violin Concerto No 1, Also, Symphony No 9.  
1.00 *News bulletin*.  
1.05 *Lindsay String Quartet*, in Manchester. Beethoven (the C, Op 59 No 3).  
2.00 *Symphonies of Rubbra*: New Philharmonia Orchestra under Vernon Handley play the No 2.  
2.40 *Classical music*: Colin Lawson, with Erik Levi (piano). Widor's introduction and Rondo, Op 72; Florent Schmitt's *Andantino*, Op 30 No 1; Caplet's

## Radio 2

- MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see Radio 1).  
8.00pm. Sports Round-Up 8.50am. Steve Madden 9.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm. News 1.30. 1.45. 2.00. 2.15. 2.30. 2.45. 3.00. 3.15. 3.30. 3.45. 4.00. 4.15. 4.30. 4.45. 4.55. 5.00. 5.15. 5.30. 5.45. 5.55. 6.00. 6.15. 6.30. 6.45. 6.55. 7.00. 7.15. 7.30. 7.45. 7.55. 8.00. 8.15. 8.30. 8.45. 8.55. 9.00. 9.15. 9.30. 9.45. 9.55. 10.00. 10.15. 10.30. 10.45. 10.55. 11.00. 11.15. 11.30. 11.45. 11.55. 12.00. 12.15. 12.30. 12.45. 12.55. 1.00. 1.15. 1.30. 1.45. 1.55. 2.00. 2.15. 2.30. 2.45. 2.55. 3.00. 3.15. 3.30. 3.45. 3.55. 4.00. 4.15. 4.30. 4.45. 4.55. 5.00. 5.15. 5.30. 5.45. 5.55. 6.00. 6.15. 6.30. 6.45. 6.55. 7.00. 7.15. 7.30. 7.45. 7.55. 8.00. 8.15. 8.30. 8.45. 8.55. 9.00. 9.15. 9.30. 9.45. 9.55. 10.00. 10.15. 10.30. 10.45. 10.55. 11.00. 11.15. 11.30. 11.45. 11.55. 12.00. 12.15. 12.30. 12.45. 12.55. 1.00. 1.15. 1.30. 1.45. 1.55. 2.00. 2.15. 2.30. 2.45. 2.55. 3.00. 3.15. 3.30. 3.45. 3.55. 4.00. 4.15. 4.30. 4.45. 4.55. 5.00. 5.15. 5.30. 5.45. 5.55. 6.00. 6.15. 6.30. 6.45. 6.55. 7.00. 7.15. 7.30. 7.45. 7.55. 8.00. 8.15. 8.30. 8.45. 8.55. 9.00. 9.15. 9.30. 9.45. 9.55. 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Executive Editor  
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1410.9 (-2.3)  
FT-SE 100  
1766.9 (+0.6)  
Bargains  
24972 (23848)  
USM (Datastream)  
146.85 (-0.38)

THE POUND

US dollar  
1.7640 (-0.0045)  
W German mark  
2.9794 (-0.0032)  
Trade-weighted  
74.3 (-0.1)

Fund group profits hit by crash

Last October's stock market crash cost Framlington, the fund management group, around £1.2 million in lost profits. Figures for the six months to end-December show a setback in pretax profits from £2.70 million to £2.27 million. Profits would have risen to around £3.5 million but for Black Monday.

Cuts at BZW

Barclays de Zoete Wedd is releasing 16 former partners of Wedd Durlacher and de Zoete and Bevan from their contracts. City Diary, page 23

Aaronson up

Aaronson Brothers, the building products manufacturer and distributor, increased pretax profits in the year to end-September from £1.9 million to £2.6 million.

A final dividend of 3.75p was declared. Tempus, page 22



Thomson T-Line is betting £90m on the pools with the Kenneth Fleet adds up the first dividends in his column in The Times tomorrow

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	1919.26 (-5.31)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average	23709.10 (+113.73)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	2295.31 (-59.15)
Amsterdam	AEX	219.9 (-0.5)
Sydney	AO	1222.1 (-26.3)
Frankfurt	Frankfurt	1273.1 (+23.5)
Brussels	General	4115.6 (+101.9)
Paris	CAC	2591.7 (+4.5)
Zurich	SKA Gen	421.3 (+5.8)
London	FT-100	1766.9 (+0.6)
FT-30	FT-30	1410.9 (-2.3)
FT-100	FT-100	1766.9 (+0.6)
FT-30	FT-30	1410.9 (-2.3)
FT-100	FT-100	1766.9 (+0.6)
FT-30	FT-30	1410.9 (-2.3)
FT-100	FT-100	1766.9 (+0.6)
FT-30	FT-30	1410.9 (-2.3)
FT-100	FT-100	1766.9 (+0.6)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	Rank Organisation	632p (+17p)
Schroders	Schroders	525p (+10p)
Deagen	Deagen	495p (+10p)
W Lawrence	W Lawrence	127p (+10p)
Trent	Trent	135p (+15p)
TSL Group	TSL Group	872p (+15p)
Norcross	Norcross	408p (+13p)
Slyo	Slyo	280p (+20p)
Egerton Trust	Egerton Trust	164p (+10p)
Hargreaves	Hargreaves	70p (+10p)
Catalyst	Catalyst	70p (+10p)
Calor Group	Calor Group	576p (+25p)
FALLS:	Routledge	505p (-12p)
Candover	Candover	226p (-10p)
Henderson Adm	Henderson Adm	585p (-35p)
Merrill Moore	Merrill Moore	295p (-15p)
Brown Shipley	Brown Shipley	510p (-11p)
VSEL	VSEL	180p (-10p)
Edro	Edro	180p (-10p)
Closing prices		

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	9%
3-month interbank 9%:	9%
3-month eligible bills 9%:	9%
US: Prime Rate 8%:	8%
Federal Funds 6%:	6%
3-month Treasury Bill:	5.73-5.73%
30-year bonds 10%:	10%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.7640	£: DM1.6805
£: DM2.9794	£: Sfr1.3820
£: Sfr2.4484	£: FF10.0548
£: FF10.0548	£: Yen226.50
£: Yen226.50	£: Index74.3
£: Index74.3	ECU 20.69305
ECU 20.69305	Sfr 2.70887

GOLD

London Fixing:	AM \$437.80 pm \$443.25
close \$443.50-444.00 (\$252.50)	
New York:	Comex \$443.20-443.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar.)	pm \$16.55bbl (\$16.37)
* Denotes latest trading price	
Bas Rotterdam	22
Tempus	22
Stock Market	22
Wall Street	22
Alphastocks	22
Connect	23
City Diary	23
Traded Opts	24
Share Prices	25
Money Markets	25
Foreign Exch	26
Unit Tracts	26
Commodities	26
USM Prices	26

Battle looming over control of national electricity grid

Unions set to back Marshall

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Lord Marshall of Goring, the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, has been told by the trade unions in the power industry that they will support him in any continued campaign to keep the generating business and the national grid intact after privatization.

The White Paper on the privatization of the industry, likely to be published a week after the March 15 Budget, is expected to recommend that the CEBG be split into two new generating units, and that the national grid be controlled by the area electricity boards.

However, although Lord Marshall has no objections to the generating network being split up, he has consistently said the grid must operate in tandem with the power station network.

He is believed to have had further informal talks with Mrs Thatcher last night, after suggestions that he and other CEBG board members are considering their future within the industry. Lord Marshall and the CEBG would make no official comment on the matter.

Lord Marshall was appointed by Mrs Thatcher, and ennobled by her after his success in keeping electricity flowing during the year-long miners' strike.

He has been a life-long proponent of nuclear power, and it is possible that a renewed and increased commitment to nuclear power by the Government will be used to compensate him for the loss of the national grid.

Certainly it would be almost impossible to attract private capital into a nuclear power programme without his involvement. He has fronted the industry on nuclear safety and on the economics of nuclear power, and he played a big part in winning approval for the Sizewell B nuclear reactor, which is now to be duplicated at at least five sites in England and Wales.

The professional engineering staff in the industry have backed Lord Marshall and say that proposals by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, could be thwarted if they refuse to co-operate.

Mr John Lyons, the general secretary of the Engineers and Managers Association, which represents the CEBG senior engineering and scientific staff, who operate the power stations and run the national grid, said the plans proposed were "unworkable and damaging".

He refused to discuss possible industrial action - the union is not fundamentally

opposed to privatization - but he said that his members did have the ability to halt power supplies, and that they were angry that their and Lord Marshall's advice had been ignored.

Mr Eric Hammond, the leader of the electricians' union, which represents the other workers in the industry, said yesterday that the government plans to break up the CEBG will cause alarm and dismay throughout the industry.

He said: "The extent of this foolhardy upheaval will have a serious effect on the morale of a workforce with a productivity and industrial relations record second to none."

"It is inconceivable that Lord Marshall and his senior CEBG colleagues will be able to carry on when their clear-cut advice - like ours, based on experience not dogma - has been comprehensively rejected."

"The industry is threatened with a crisis entirely of the Government's making. It promises to wreck the stability and efficiency which has ensured security of supply, and prices which have both benefited the consumer and assured our international competitiveness."



Lord Marshall, at his office yesterday, is believed to have seen Mrs Thatcher last night

Barker not to raise Dee bid

By Alison Eadie

Barker & Dobson has decided not to increase its £1.9 billion offer for Dee Corporation, the larger Gateway supermarket group. Dee shares fell 9p at the news to close at 185p yesterday, 32p below the offer price. B&D shares rose 6p to 139p.

The chairman of B&D, Mr John Fletcher, said: "Dee's disappointing forecast demonstrates how generous our offer is." He added that the B&D forecast of a 43 per cent increase in dividend to 6.67p net in the year to April 1989 indicated confidence in the group's strength when it had taken over Dee.

B&D also laid to rest the vexed issue of loan covenants. It declared that its bankers had agreed to suspend the covenant dealing with borrowings to net worth for six months after the offer became unconditional. Dee has persistently attacked B&D's bid-financing by saying the company would be in breach of its loan covenants from the date of going unconditional.

B&D's decision not to raise its offer was greeted with delight by Dee, who interpreted it as B&D throwing in the towel. Mr Alec Monk, the chairman of Dee, said Barker & Dobson's management, its strategy and its offer lacked all credibility.

Mr John Dear, of Lazards, which is advising Dee, said the 6 per cent yield should underpin Dee shares at their present levels. Dee's shares were 174p before the bid and the market has risen about 5 per cent since then.

Mr Fletcher, in answer to criticism, said the offer was too low; that Dee shareholders would be participating in the new group through owning 85 per cent of the enlarged B&D.

He added that increasing the cash element of the bid would only raise the borrowings, and raising the share element could undermine the B&D share price. Dee's profit forecast of a 7 per cent fall in pretax profits to about £185 million this year did not justify an increased offer.

B&D continued to attack Dee's forecast, saying Dee had not revealed how much, if any, of last year's £33.5 million extraordinary charges had been released to profit. It also said it believed that Gateway's forecast trading profit of £170 million could have been increased by switching leasing costs to interest costs, which are deducted after trading profit is declared.

B&D's offer of 11 of its shares and £28.07 cash for 20 Dee shares values each Dee share at 216.8p. The cash element of the bid is worth 140.3p per share. The offer closes on February 19.

Britoil board nears decision time on BP bid opposition

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The board of Britoil will consider today whether to continue its opposition to the bid for the company from BP following a meeting between the Treasury, BP and Britoil advisers last night.

A recommendation from the Britoil board would remove the final obstacle to the BP takeover and also allow the Government to avoid being put in the embarrassing position of appearing to support one side of the other.

The other remaining obstacle to the takeover disappeared yesterday when the Department of Trade and

Industry announced that the BP bid would not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The news immediately sent Britoil shares up to the level of the BP bid.

BP is believed to be considering giving a firm commitment to the Government that under its ownership Britoil will remain based in Glasgow, that its staff will be left intact or increased, and that the Britoil North Sea assets will remain with a wholly-owned subsidiary operating as the Britoil division within BP.

A final ruling from the

Treasury on the role of the golden share may not be made until early next week after the Chancellor has had a personal meeting with the Britoil chief executive, Mr David Walker, and the BP chairman, Sir Peter Walters.

The Britoil board is due to have held a scheduled weekly meeting in London today when it will consider whether to consider maintaining its opposition to the BP's 50p a share bid.

Elp's bid for Tricentrol has slipped in view of the higher offer from Atlantic Richfield.

NZ deal in pipeline for British Gas

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

British Gas is negotiating to buy Petrocorp, the New Zealand state-owned oil and gas company, in a deal which could be worth up to £300 million.

The New Zealand government, faced with increasing overseas debts, has decided to divest itself of state holdings in oil and gas as well as parts of its national airline, and is believed to have invited four oil and gas groups to start discussions for Petrocorp.

British Gas said yesterday it would not comment on reports of corporate activity, but the company, which recently acquired significant assets in Canada, has had a team of senior managers in New Zealand for the past week.

Petrocorp owns a half share in the only major New Zealand offshore oil and gas field and supplies about half the country's gas.

The New Zealand government sold 15 per cent of Petrocorp two years ago by tender to Sir Ron Brierley for about £50 million and last year sold a similar amount by flotation to a combination of the company staff, the New Zealand public and the Swiss Banking Corporation.

It is now understood to be prepared to sell the rest, and although its favoured candidate for the purchase is a local business consortium, it has made details of the company available to British Gas and two other companies.

British Gas wants to increase its overseas portfolio of oil and gas investments as well as increase its holdings in oil licences in the United Kingdom. It is understood that it abandoned plans to enter the bidding for Britoil against BP only because the Treasury refused to give a clear undertaking that it would not invoke the powers of its golden share in Britoil if British Gas entered the race.

Dollar buoyed by Japanese deficit

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The dollar moved higher on the third and final day of the US Treasury's \$27 billion, three-day quarterly refunding programme, with suspicions of central bank intervention to keep it below the key DM1.70 level.

The US currency was buoyed by news of a trade deficit for Japan in the first 20 days of last month and by expectations that the auction of 30-year US bonds, the most important of the three legs of the refunding programme, would be completed successfully.

The dollar closed a third of a penny up at DM1.6890, having risen to DM1.6990 at one stage. It rose from Y127.80 to Y128.40 against the yen. The pound slipped by 45 points to \$1.7640.

Japan's custom-cleared trade was in deficit by \$318 million in the first 20 days of January, compared with a surplus of \$990.8 million in

the corresponding period of last year. The figures, while not directly linked to the outlook for the US trade deficit, confirmed a picture of strong import growth.

Expectations were that Japanese investors would take up about a third of the \$8.75 billion auction of 30-year Treasury bonds on offer. The average yield was expected to be about 8.45 per cent.

Before the auction, the 8 1/2 per cent, 30-year bond fell by 10 1/2 points to 104 1/2.

The auction of \$9 billion of 10-year Treasury notes, on Wednesday, was regarded as slightly disappointing, with the average yield 8.21 per cent. The ratio of bids to the amount of stock on offer was 2.04 times - below the 2.3 average for recent refundings.

After digesting the results of the long bond auction, attention in the foreign exchange markets will focus on today's US employment data.

US futures chiefs list reforms

From Bailey Morris Washington

Officials of the Chicago futures industry yesterday proposed a list of post-crash reforms, designed to avert a heavy-handed response from government regulators.

Mr Leo Melamed, the chairman of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and Mr Karsten Mahlmann, the chairman of the Chicago Board of Trade, outlined their proposals to the Senate Banking Committee on the third day of testimony into the causes of the market crash.

The officials opposed the designation of a new super agency. Both men endorsed the creation of a broad inter-market committee of securities and futures regulators and exchange officials to co-ordinate regulations of these interlinked markets.

The Exchange officials, who fear the phasing out of their own industry regulator, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, hoped to influence the intense turf battle developing over the future regulation of stock index futures.

Accountants move to admit outsiders

By Carol Ferguson

The three chartered accountancy bodies have recommended that outside investors should be allowed to own shares in accountancy firms - but these would be non-voting shares, and holdings would be limited to 25 per cent.

Voting shares could only be held by qualified chartered accountants, who must control 51 per cent of the votes. Non-accountant employees could hold up to 49 per cent.

Outside shareholders would be prohibited from appointing directors, and firms could not undertake audits where there was a significant relationship between the client and the outside shareholder.

The decision is only in the form of a recommendation at this stage. It is open to further debate and amendment, before being voted on by the councils of the individual institutes closer to the date of the implementation of the European Community's Eighth Directive, allowing auditors to incorporate, possibly in 1990.

The recommendation

marks a considerable change in direction for the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. It voted last year that a ban on outside shareholders should be enshrined in law.

The decision caused considerable controversy, with some firms and members believing outside shareholders might compromise the independence of the auditor. Since

then, a joint working party of the English, Scottish and Irish institutes has been working to achieve a consensus view.

Mr Elwyn Eilledge, senior partner of Ernst & Whinney and a keen supporter of allowing outside shareholders, said the leading firms supported the institutes' line. "I am not unhappy with the 25 per cent idea, because we can control the business better than with 49 per cent," he said. "But I would like to see the outside shareholders have votes, because the shares are a much less attractive investment without votes."

Soviet economist backs borrowing from capitalists

Look West, Gorbachov urged

By Colin Narbrough

The Soviet Union's policy dream of attracting Western capital and technology with joint ventures is flawed, and the country must take up huge, long-term loans in the West, if Mr Mikhail Gorbachov wants his ambitious plans for overhauling the economy to succeed.

That was the message delivered this week by Mr Nikolai Shmelev, the prominent Soviet economist and former son-in-law of Mr Nikita Khrushchev, whose ideas for injecting more "enterprise culture" into the Soviet system have received much public attention in the easier atmosphere of the glasnost age.

Mr Shmelev, who in December suggested the country's owners should be allowed to use their idle roubles to buy shares in Soviet companies, is evidently no stick-in-the-mud. His latest views, which appeared in Moscow News, came as reports of large-scale gold sales by the

Soviet Union helped push prices down. Moscow's need for more hard currency since oil and gas prices dropped is well-known, and the care it took last year in settling the issue of outstanding debts from Tsarist times was a preparatory move for an historic return to tapping the bond market.

But Western diplomats caution against reading too much into the publicly-stated opinions of a single Soviet economist, even though Mr Shmelev's views appear to carry weight.

An article he wrote in Novy Mir last summer drew high-level attention at the subsequent Communist plenum and Mr Gorbachov is on record as praising Mr Shmelev's analysis, if not some of his controversial remedies, such as permitting unemployment in the workers' state.

A foreign trade expert and member of the US Canada Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Mr Shmelev sees

Moscow's present financing arrangements as inadequate to meet the demands a thorough restructuring will bring.

The 20 to 30 billion roubles he thinks the Soviet Union should raise abroad should be used on state-of-the-art plant and technology to put the economy into a position where it could start exporting more manufactures. Moscow, he believes, is underborrowed.

Legislation intended to open the door to a flood of Western companies seeking joint ventures in the Soviet Union, has proved disappointing. Mr Shmelev sees the system positively discouraging foreign investors, with its 44 per cent tax on dividends.

And while going for big borrowing and citizens' shares, why not make the rouble convertible? This, the reformist Mr Shmelev accepts, would probably mean

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# Equiticorp denies plan for massive asset sale at GPG

By John Bell, City Editor

The New Zealand group Equiticorp has strongly denied reports attributed to one of its own senior directors that it plans a massive sale of assets at GPG, the London-based financial services group.

Equiticorp acquired a 60 per cent stake in GPG, formerly Guinness Peat Group, after a lengthy takeover battle last year.

The "plan" to dispose of GPG divisions was described in a report by the news agency Reuters. Mr Peter Stanes, Equiticorp's managing director, told Reuters during an interview in Auckland that the asset sales, due to take place within four to six months, were part of a plan to rationalize Equiticorp's investments.

Mr Stanes said the plan called for the sale of all GPG interests except its merchant bank, Guinness Mahon and Co. According to Reuters, Mr Stanes said the collapse of share prices had made the task of rationalizing assets more difficult. "Inevitably it's more of a buyers' than a sellers' market."

The investment in GPG was producing negative cash flow, he said, adding: "There is an end-point of having control of property we want and ensuring that from there on it doesn't become a negative cash flow," he said.

But Mr Allan Hawkins, Equiticorp's chairman, in a second interview with Reuters, denied that the firm planned to sell the assets of GPG.

Mr Grant Adams, the deputy chairman, told Reuters that Mr Stanes was talking about a hypothetical situation. "We don't want anything like that published," he said.

After a day of confusion in London, Mr Peter Hunt, a director of both GPG and Capitalcorp, part of the New Zealand group, claimed that Mr Stanes' remarks had been taken out of context. "Peter Stanes is not directly involved with the investment in GPG," he said. "The directors who have responsibility are very much Allan Hawkins and Grant Adams," he said. But

Mr Hunt did not directly rule out the possibility of asset sales at GPG.

"From day one, the part of the group that we are closest to is the bank. Any good organization is constantly reviewing its position," he added.

Any plans to dispose of GPG assets were matters for the GPG board. There were no plans currently before the board, said Mr Hunt.

GPG consists of the merchant banking operation Guinness Mahon, Fenchurch Insurance Holdings, Guinness Mahon Capital Corp Inc, a US holding company, and 22 per cent of Guinness Peat Aviation.

## Benedetti sues illegal buyers

From Jonathan Brande, Brussels

Signor Carlo de Benedetti, the Italian businessman, yesterday took action in the criminal courts to protect his stake in Société Générale de Belgique, Belgium's largest company.

His aggressive action came in the wake of Wednesday's unprecedented spree of anonymous business on the Brussels bourse as some 2 million Société Générale shares changed hands at prices of up to Bfr3,730 (\$39.87).

Off-bourse, however, a further 4 million shares are believed to have changed hands at Bfr4,000 a share.

Signor de Benedetti and "La Générale" have been banned from buying shares on the market, in the wake of the Italian's bid to increase his 18.6 per cent stake in the company by a further 15 per cent.

The Italian is convinced that the buying was organized by a rival contender but, unable to identify the mystery buyer officially, he has issued a writ for illegal purchases against "persons unknown".

He hopes to obtain a prosecution as soon as an official inquiry has identified the operators. "We are not bluffing," said an official of Cerus, Signor de Benedetti's holding company. "There could be important people sent to jail."

There has been speculation that the shares were sold by a group of Flemish shareholders to a Paris finance company.

Angered by what he clearly sees as an attempt to see off his bid for control of Société Générale, Signor de Benedetti said in a radio interview that he would no longer be bound by his earlier commitment to take no more than 25 per cent of the company for himself, and hand on the remainder of his holdings to Belgian allies.

Signor de Benedetti is still unwilling to reach agreement with Mr André Leysen, the chairman of Gevseri, the photographic group, over control of Société Générale.

Mr Leysen, who heads a European consortium ready to buy 10 million newly issued Société Générale shares, has offered to work with his Italian rival, provided that the company remains under Belgian control.

However, Mr Leysen's bid has been hampered by the failure of the commercial courts to decide whether the issue of the new shares is legal and should be allowed to go ahead. The ruling has been put off until next Tuesday.

## COMMENT David Brewerton Inflationary pressures bring echoes of 1970s

Ford's pay offer to its workers was worrying enough for the financial markets. Its rejection yesterday, by a large majority, was even worse. Pay has become the focus of market attention, and it is creating some uncomfortable echoes of the 1970s.

The offer, 7 per cent in the first year, with inflation-plus 2.5 per cent in each of the second and third years, was, to be fair, rejected because of the changes in working practices linked with it. Even so, the episode has underlined the tightness of conditions in the labour market.

Money market rates moved up by about 3/4 of a point, while the gilt market looked distinctly soggy, eventually ending half a point down. The Bank of England's prompt move on Monday has created a mood in which the fear is of still higher base rates.

The evidence of inflationary pressure is there for anyone prepared to look for it. The latest information from the Halifax Building Society on house prices shows that the society's index recorded its largest ever rise, of 16.3 per cent, in the 12 months to January.

This is not quite as bad as it looks — the index has been running only since the beginning of 1983 and there were larger rises during the 1972-73 and 1978-79 housing booms. But it suggests that the effects of the City's shake-out are not yet spilling over into the property market.

And, whereas house price inflation in the earlier phase of the current cycle may have been a localized South-east and East Anglia phenomenon, the evidence is that it is now widely spread around the regions, driven by strong real income growth.

## Crunching the numbers

Accountants are wizards with figures, but they will need all their alchemy when they come to valuing their own firms for the purposes of letting in outside shareholders.

The old-fashioned method of a year's purchase of fee income was fine for two-man partnerships with annual fee income of a couple of hundred thousand pounds. But when it comes to the big accountancy practices which offer a range of services from auditing to management consultancy, the valuation will need to be based on the earnings stream.

Partnerships, of course, do not earn surplus profits for retention. All the income is divided among the partners, and taxed at their individual tax rates. In reality, however, some of their income will be salary and some a share of the profits. The aggregate of the latter will represent the earnings stream of the newly incorporated body. The partners

These symptoms of inflationary pressures sit uneasily alongside expectations of continued low inflation. Most people's worst-case forecast is for a rise in inflation to 5 per cent, or slightly above, by the end of the year, not drastically above the present 3.7 per cent rate. In spite of the warning signs, the markets will be surprised if inflation really does take off.

### Savings double-think

Not only the noses but the entire faces of the normally placid men who manage investment trusts are glowing red with rage. Their ire follows a ruling by the self-regulatory body, IMRO, that they have to soft-pedal on their monthly savings schemes.

IMRO has ruled that the trusts cannot send out application forms to join the savings schemes at the same time as they distribute information on them. This piece of double-think means that the potential investor must obtain information first, and then ask for an application form. Human lethargy suggests he might not bother.

The savings schemes are a good idea and a useful way of promoting wider share ownership.

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, when reviewing the IMRO rulebook, commented that he was concerned about the constraints which might be placed on the marketing of investment trust savings schemes.

The same Sir Gordon pointed out that investment savings schemes offer certain advantages over unit trusts.

The problem is that the same Sir Gordon is proposing to do nothing about it, at least for a year.

## Lord Young exchanges his Jaguar for a Rover

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

A new £23,000 Range Rover has taken the place of a Jaguar in Lord Young of Graffham's garage. Lord Young bought the Ascat-green car for his private motoring after waiting two months to take delivery.

As Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Lord Young will decide the future of Land-Rover when he considers the options for privatizing the company now being prepared by Mr Graham Day, the Rover chairman. In January, a record number of Range Rovers was sold in Britain.



## Offer for Minet is unconditional

By Alison Eadie

St Paul Companies' £400 million offer for Minet Holdings, the Lloyd's broker, went unconditional yesterday, a day after Lloyd's ruling council waived restrictions on outside ownership of brokers.

Mr Alan Lord, Lloyd's chief executive, said it was in Lloyd's interests that there should be the widest possible access to the market. "In this connection it is plainly disadvantageous to exclude from the market overseas producers of insurance business who might well be expected to contribute to the market's success."

Mr Lord also said that in the current climate of opinion — in which financial groups with multiple functions were accep-

## South-east Asia 'to grow fastest'

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The developing countries of south-east Asia will lead the way in terms of economic growth this year, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit. In its *World Outlook 1988*, the EIU forecasts a slow-growing world in which the Asian countries, while expanding more slowly than last year, will continue to perform impressively.

Among the fastest will be Hong Kong at 9 per cent, China 8.5 per cent, Taiwan 8.5 per cent, South Korea 7 per cent, Singapore 6 per cent and Thailand 6 per cent. This compares with a forecast for the 24 rich countries who are members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development of 2.4 per cent, the same as last year.

The rapid growth of the Asian countries is partly a reflection of the difficulties faced by Japanese exporters, burdened by a strong yen.

With US import demand slowing, the outlook for Latin America is poor, which puts new burdens on the debtor countries. Brazil's economy is forecast to slow from 3 per cent to 2 per cent, Peru from 6.5 per cent to 2 per cent, and Argentina 2 per cent to 1.5 per cent. Mexico may not rise much above last year's 1 per cent.

The London Business School now forecasts 2 per cent growth in the OECD this year. The 20 per cent drop in the dollar will mean low growth in West Germany and the rest of continental Europe.

## British Steel names flotation advisers

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

British Steel Corporation, which the Government hopes to privatize by the summer, has announced its advisers in the run-up to flotation, with Barclays de Zotte Wedd (BZW) appointed as its merchant banker, and Phillips & Drew as broking adviser.

BZW was appointed originally at the beginning of last

year to give preliminary advice. Slaughter & May is to be legal adviser, while Coopers & Lybrand is accountant for the flotation in a joint appointment with the Department of Trade and Industry.

This follows the appointment of the advisers to the DTI, Samuel Montagu as banker and Rowe & Pitman as broker.

tough job in shepherding British Steel to privatization. The lessons of a bear market came home harshly with the BP share flotation. But investors will also need to be convinced that it is wise to put cash into the steel sector, still hit by global overcapacity, which would become more acute the more world economic growth slows.

In order to sell British Steel as an investment, much is

bound to be made of its successes in recent years, which have turned it from a loss-maker to one of the most profitable steel operations worldwide. In the first half to last October there were record profits of £190 million after all charges, a more than trebled performance compared with the previous first half.

City analysts expect privatization to raise up to £1 billion.

## 16 to lose jobs at BZW

Barclays de Zotte Wedd, one of the biggest securities houses in the City, yesterday shocked the market as word filtered out that 10 former partners of Wedd Durlacher, the jobber, and six from de Zotte & Bevan, the broker, would be leaving. Most of them only learned of their fate yesterday, but the parting is said to have been reasonably amicable — they are being released from their golden handcuffs and allowed to keep all the cash owed to them from the sale of their firms to Barclays. It means that a number of them will be walking away with more than £1 million each. The most senior of those to go is John Robertson, aged 53, former Wedd senior partner, ex-deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange, and a member of the Securities Association Board. He has been with Wedd since 1955 and will be leaving in a few months. "I will be taking a break for a year and then I will look around for something to do, perhaps with a charity," he tells me. Others to go include oil analyst Ray Smith and market-makers Jim Cox, Charlie Philipson, John Lowe, Mike Gouldson, Bob King, Errol Fuller and David Harvie. At the time that Barclays bought the two firms, a clause was inserted, allowing for "agreed leavers among partners." Barclays is understood to have operated this clause. Rumours of within spread redundancies within the firm were denied. "We have no plans for wholesale

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### In a blazer of glory...

The red noses being worn on the floor of the Stock Exchange today will help to mask the embarrassment of the traded options dealers, the men who inhabit the floor these days. For the first time, Warburg's options dealers are being forced to abandon their traditional pin-striped jackets and don boldly striped blue and yellow blazers. "Nobody is very keen on the idea and

the first time each of us walks on to the floor we'll be greeted with a loud cheer," bemoaned one dealer. The cheers will be coming from their opposite numbers from James Capel and Scrimgeour, who are already dressed in the Life-style blazers — Scrimgeour in yellow with black edging and Capel's in pink with a blue pattern. Very pretty, I am sure.

redundancies," a spokesman says, "although staff numbers and the performance of individuals are continuously under review."

### Accepted

Union Discount, the London accepting house, is well satisfied with its foray into



"The firm even bought me a personal robot. Now it's got my job."

market-making through the Glasgow jobber Aitken Campbell. Glasgow is a small market and Union Discount tends to deal with provincial brokers who, after Black Monday, suddenly found they could get the big London firms on the telephone. "There is a new definition of an accepting house in Edinburgh," managing director Graeme Gilchrist quips. "It is a market-maker who answers his telephone."

### Future shock

The centenary history of the *Financial Times*, to be published next week, is a hefty tome with a hefty price tag. Some 500 pages long, it costs £25. Yet, on the dust-jacket, an American price of \$29.95 is also given. According to my calculator, this would mean an exchange rate of just under \$1.20 to the pound. Could it be that the FT knows something we do not? Is there about to be a terrible run on the pound?

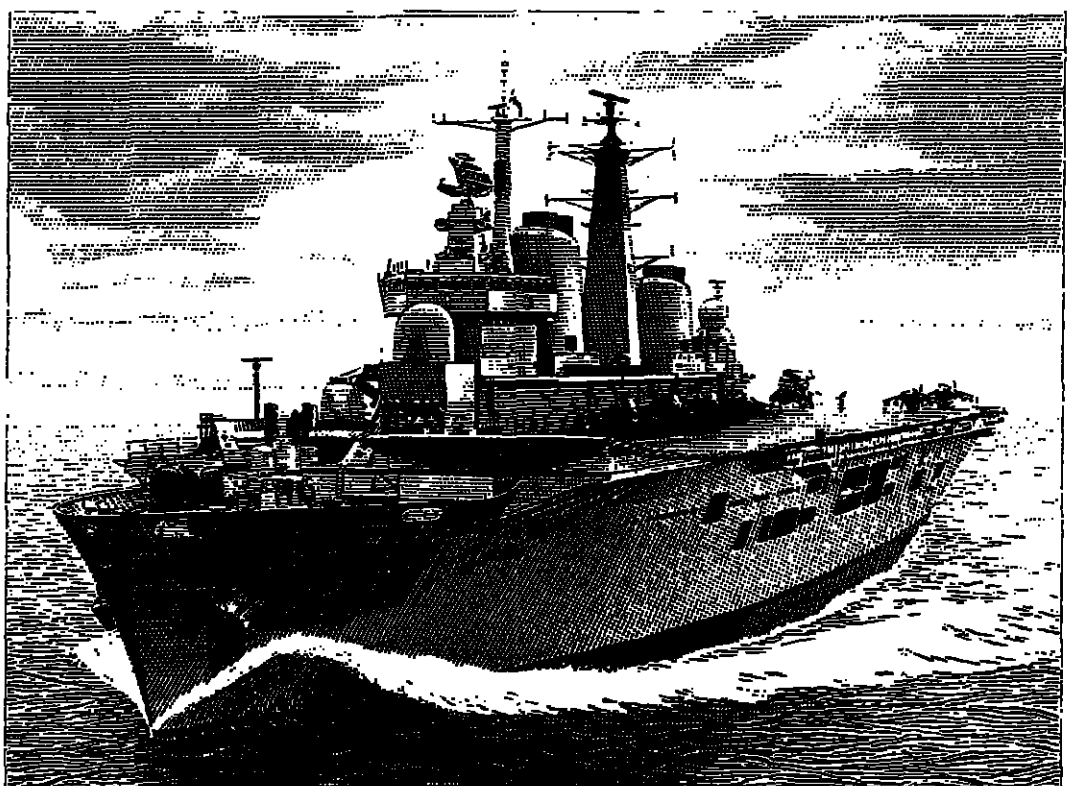
## Making friends

Japanese securities firms, among the few still recruiting in the City, are taking their onslaught on the British and American financial markets seriously. Keith McDowell, erstwhile deputy director general of the CBI, has, I hear, been approached by the Japanese foreign ministry to spend two weeks in Japan next month, as their guest, teaching Tokyo businessmen how to be "good corporate citizens". McDowell, a former industrial editor of the *Daily Mail*, admits that it sounds "intriguing". "In Japan, employers are very good at looking after their employees, but it is not an accepted thing that they play a big part in the community," he says. "In the West, companies are increasingly funding activities in the arts and sports worlds, but when the Japanese invest here they find that very strange. We don't want them just coming here and making widgets, we want them to get involved in our communities. But it is interesting that the approach came from them." Expected to be putting the case for the Americans is Herbert Schmeitz, a former spokesman for Mobil Oil, and one of the best-known public relations men in the United States.

● A follow-up to those poor children christened Babbies and Squeak. A reader from Weybridge, Surrey, recalls seeing, in a school magazine, the name "Ira Beckett".

Carol Leonard

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## BHP arranges £1.49bn loans

Melbourne (Reuters) — The Broken Hill Proprietary Company (BHP) has prepared borrowings of more than Aus\$3.7 billion (£1.49 billion) to pay for its buyout of the two corporate predators on its share register, BHP advisers said.

Mr Michael Tilley, corporate adviser with Lloyds Bank NZA, said BHP will raise Aus\$2.7 billion directly itself, lifting debt against shareholders' funds to 146.3 per cent from 72.4 per cent before a programme of asset sales starts next week.

The extra Aus\$1 billion is arranged by BHP without recourse to fund a joint venture to hold 24 per cent of BHP.

Under the buyback, BHP pays Mr Robert Holmes a Court's Bell Resources Aus\$2.1 billion for 20 per cent of BHP, later cancelled, leaving Bell 12 per cent of BHP's reduced capital.

Elders IXL's 19 per cent stake in BHP will be sold into a joint venture, Beswick Proprietary, requiring an Aus\$375 million cash injection from BHP. After the capital reduction, Beswick will be BHP's largest shareholder with about 24 per cent.

Beswick will borrow Aus\$1 billion through a new finance associate of BHP to help pay Elders an Aus\$1.6 billion first instalment of a total Aus\$2.1 billion for its BHP shares. The remainder is paid in five-year preference shares.

Only the Aus\$2.7 billion borrowed to pay Bell and buy the half-share in Beswick will appear on the BHP balance sheet.

Beswick's Aus\$1 billion borrowings to pay Elders will be secured only with BHP shares held by Beswick with no recourse to BHP itself, Mr Tilley said.

"BHP has no intention of using Beswick's shareholding (in BHP) to institutionalize the current management of the board. It (Beswick) is a way of making money," Mr Tilley said.

Neither BHP nor Elders may influence Beswick's voting rights over the 24 per cent BHP parcel, Mr Tilley said.

In a linked agreement BHP has a similar five-year pact to sell its 16.5 per cent stake in Elders to companies controlled by Elders' chief executive, Mr John Elliott, and associates.

As with the Beswick deal, BHP sells its Elders stake on deferred terms, receiving redeemable preference shares. The purchase price of Aus\$647.5 million is to be paid in five years.

BHP has asked shareholders to approve the deal on February 25.

## Berrill in the firing line as the City revolution arrives

Sir Kenneth Berrill discusses with David Brewerton his relationships with the institutions he has to regulate under the Financial Services Act

"There is no such thing as a friendly rule book." On that, but possibly little else, Sir Kenneth Berrill and the masters he has set out to control are one.

Sir Kenneth settles back in a cream velvet armchair in his large, comfortable office, a stone's throw from both the Bank of England and the Stock Exchange, where the asking rent on office space touches £50 a square foot.

He examines his hands, torn by pulling ancient barbed wire from the hedge of his country home in Cambridgeshire, and admits that if he is not disappointed to the chairmanship of the Securities and Investments Board, he has no other plans.

His position as chairman has brought him much criticism, most of it indirect rather than honest. Last autumn, there were "leaks" to the effect that he might not last another term, and that since he was Mr Tebbit's choice for the job, he was unlikely to be the first choice of Lord Young of Gifford.

But even his broom cupboard critics admit that he should see through the implementation of the elaborate structure that the SIB has built to regulate the securities industry under the Financial Services Act. "If Berrill has got it right, then he should get the credit, but if he's got it wrong, then he should carry the can," is a common sentiment in the City.

The chairman of the SIB could not expect to be popular. In three weeks' time, those conducting securities operations must have applied for authorization. In April, those who are still unauthorized will have to put up the shutters. Sir Kenneth and his team will, through the rules, put them out of business.

Inevitably, not all securities houses will be ready for the Act. Sir Kenneth puts that down to human nature. "This has been seven years in the cooking if you go back to the appointment of Professor Jim Gower in 1981."

"But even if it had been 17 years, people would not concentrate their minds until it is very nearly Christmas."

Christmas to Sir Kenneth is being seen more like Armageddon in some City parlours, and the lack of preparedness of many securities businesses is certain to rebound on the rule-makers.

I asked Sir Kenneth if the unprepared elements would start blaming the SIB, the Act and Sir Kenneth for their lack of readiness.

"They have started to, and they will. People like to personalize problems. I'm not saying that we've done everything perfectly, of course not. No doubt some criticism is always justified, but you cannot expect life always to be fair."

"The Act does not say. Please divide people up into the irreproachable, the good, the quite good and so on. What it does is to say anybody doing this kind of activity has got to follow similar rules. It doesn't matter whether you are a big clearing bank or a one-man band. If you are engaged in trying to persuade people to buy life assurance,



Sir Kenneth Berrill

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## Hague attacks business school 'academia'

By Roland Ruid

Sir Douglas Hague, the former head of the Prime Minister's economic and social research policy unit, yesterday urged business schools to come to terms with the new industrial age, which required highly educated and technologically literate entrepreneurs, instead of academics.

Sir Douglas urged business schools to break free of the idea that "teaching for bureaucrats" could somehow help British industry. "We are in a new industrial revolution which requires management training to develop action learning from real experience within business and industry, rather than getting tied up with theory and academia," he said.

Business schools were criticized for their inability to tear themselves away from their academic roots and develop closer links with industry. "It appears that some people are afraid of getting their minds grubby, let alone their hands," Sir Douglas said.

He said that business schools often relied on their latest theory, which soon became out-of-date because the skills managers required were changing rapidly.

Drawing on his experience as chairman of Metapris, the information technology consultancy, Sir Douglas said that top management was not making the most of the potential of information technology.

It gives warning that unless spending on local authority roads is supported — possibly by the increase of supplementary grants for capital schemes — the efficiency of the local road network will continue to decline.

Otherwise, forecasts of total construction output rising this year suggest another 12 months of increasing demand for aggregates, says Baci.

Estimates show that, overall, 1987 sales of construction aggregates matched the 1973 peak, with annual sales of crushed rock up 15 per cent on the year before, sand and gravel showing a 13 per cent rise and ready-mixed concrete increasing by 11 per cent.

The materials sales trend in the final quarter of 1987 was strong, helped by the mild weather. The last three months saw rock aggregates sales up by 16 per cent, sand and gravel by 14 per cent and ready-mixed concrete by 13 per cent. But road surfacing materials were down by 2 per cent.

Like the road surfacing materials, ready-mixed concrete is still running below 1973 sales levels — by about 24 per cent — despite the sales increase.

To improve sales prospects for this year, Baci has appealed to the Government to loosen the purse strings on public sector construction.

communications satellite capability and I assured him that we would be very happy to help in any way possible."

Mr Yusuf Habibie, the research and technology minister, said that Bae, which has already sold Indonesia Rapier ground-to-air missiles worth \$385 million (£219 million), was also discussing contracts for Hawk 200 and Tornado fighter aircraft. Indonesia is planning to build its own

satellites in the late 1990s, possibly jointly with Hughes Aircraft of the US, which has supplied Indonesia's satellites so far. But Sir Raymond said that Bae was interested in collaborating with Indonesia's state aircraft corporation.

Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago which commands the sea lanes between the Indian and Pacific oceans, relies on satellites to link its 13,000 islands.

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## No pay explosion, report predicts

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Inflationary pressures in the economy are a cause for concern, but worries about a pay explosion are exaggerated, says a report released today by Oxford Economic Forecasting.

Worries about inflation and fears of overheating should recede as the economy slows down, the report says. The Oxford prediction is for 2.5 per cent growth this year, declining to 1.3 per cent next year.

Alongside this, inflation is expected to move higher, but not dramatically so, with an average rate of 3.7 per cent this year giving way to a 5.1 per cent rate next year.

A widening of the current account deficit is also forecast, from £3.4 billion this year to £4.4 billion next year.

But the Oxford forecasters expect the growth in average earnings to moderate from the present rate of 8.25 per cent to about 7.5 per cent.

The number of unemployed is forecast to average 2.61 million this year, rising to 2.63 million next year.

While their forecast is for a slowdown in activity, the Oxford economists concede that there has been contradictory evidence on the economy in recent weeks, with the worsening balance of payments and record December bank lending pointing to continued strong growth in demand.

Young of Gifford, the Oxford economist, said that there has been contradictory evidence on the economy in recent weeks, with the worsening balance of payments and record December bank lending pointing to continued strong growth in demand.

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## Tokyo car imports rise 43% to 6,000

Tokyo (Reuters) — Sales of foreign cars in Japan rose 42.9 per cent in January to 5,957, the 49th successive monthly year-on-year rise, the Japan Automobile Importers Association said. However, sales of all foreign-made cars amounted to less than 3 per cent of the total.

British-made cars, making 6.8 per cent of the January total, rose 69 per cent to 409, and included 272 Rover Group Minis, up 77.8 per cent, and 43 Jaguars, up 22.9 per cent.

January sales of foreign cars with engines of more than 2,000cc rose 45.3 per cent.

West German-made cars accounted for 74.5 per cent of January sales at 4,436, 41.8 per cent more than a year earlier.

US-made cars, 5.3 per cent of the total, rose 70.6 per cent to 319.

Swedish-made cars, 5.1 per cent of the total, rose 19.5 per cent to 306.

French-made cars, 4.5 per cent of the total, rose 82.4 per cent to 270.

Italian-made cars, 3.5 per cent of the total, rose 4 per cent to 207.

Frankfurt (Reuters) — M Jacques Calvet, chairman of Peugeot, is reported to have said that Japanese car exports to the European Economic Community should be limited.

He said Japan had exported 1.4 million new cars to the EEC in 1987 while importing only 90,000.

M Calvet said quotas should be imposed until Japanese car imports from EEC producers were equal to at least half Japan's exports to the EEC.

"Of course," the broker added, "if they get a particularly good woman customer or rich church or temple, they'll take care of them."

One bond market analyst said association members should be ashamed of themselves. "The thinking is that women are emotional, that they panic and bolt when things go wrong in the market," she said. "And, of course, that they just don't have the funds."

The directive sets the minimum investment in bond futures for the groups at ¥50 million (£220,000).

## No futures for women in Japan

Tokyo (Reuters) — Brokers said yesterday that they had been told by the Securities Dealers' Association, their industry's regulatory body, to avoid women customers. One broker said: "All of the younger people and the women in my company were outraged when they heard about it."

The directive, which was sent to Japan's big securities companies about two weeks ago, says dealers should not accept women clients for government bond futures, considered a high-risk financial instrument.

The directive classifies women, along with the elderly and non-profit organizations such as religious groups, as those "which should not be accommodated."

"Of course," the broker added, "if they get a particularly good woman customer or rich church or temple, they'll take care of them."

One bond market analyst said association members should be ashamed of themselves. "The thinking is that women are emotional, that they panic and bolt when things go wrong in the market," she said. "And, of course, that they just don't have the funds."

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## Road surfacing only black spot in aggregates sales

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

With sales of bituminous road surfacing materials down 11 per cent compared with the 1973 peak for aggregates sales, local roads are continuing to deteriorate, says Baci.

It gives warning that unless spending on local authority roads is supported — possibly by the increase of supplementary grants for capital schemes — the efficiency of the local road network will continue to decline.

Otherwise, forecasts of total construction output rising this year suggest another 12 months of increasing demand for aggregates, says Baci.



# Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

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No.	Company	Group	Close	Change	%
1	Wholesale Firm	Electricals	100.00	0.00	0.0
2	Securinvest	Industrials S-Z	100.00	0.00	0.0
3	Cherwell	Property	100.00	0.00	0.0
4	Penney	Property	100.00	0.00	0.0
5	Smith & WA 'A'	Leisure	100.00	0.00	0.0
6	Smith & Gordon (I)	Industrials S-Z	100.00	0.00	0.0
7	Meyer Int	Industrials L-R	100.00	0.00	0.0
8	Croda	Chemicals	100.00	0.00	0.0
9	Aprioc Computers	Electricals	100.00	0.00	0.0
10	Nat West (as)	Bank/Discount	100.00	0.00	0.0
11	Countrywide	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
12	Marley	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
13	TVS	Chemicals	100.00	0.00	0.0
14	Cowes De Groot	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
15	BOC (as)	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
16	Taylor Woodrow	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
17	General Motor	Motor/Aircraft	100.00	0.00	0.0
18	Nagard	Industrials L-R	100.00	0.00	0.0
19	Burnell (as)	Oil/Gas	100.00	0.00	0.0
20	Cento Eng	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
21	Black (Peter)	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
22	Phoenix Prop	Property	100.00	0.00	0.0
23	First Nat Finance	Bank/Discount	100.00	0.00	0.0
24	Johnson Matthey	Industrials E-K	100.00	0.00	0.0
25	Nile Foods (as)	Food	100.00	0.00	0.0
26	Smallware (R)	Leisure	100.00	0.00	0.0
27	Marley	Textiles	100.00	0.00	0.0
28	Bodycote	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
29	Marley	Industrials L-R	100.00	0.00	0.0
30	Amro	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
31	Equity & Gen	Bank/Discount	100.00	0.00	0.0
32	Bradford	Property	100.00	0.00	0.0
33	Ward Hidge	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
34	STR (as)	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0
35	Eng China Clay (as)	Industrials E-K	100.00	0.00	0.0
36	Ultramar (as)	Oil/Gas	100.00	0.00	0.0
37	Whitson	Industrials S-Z	100.00	0.00	0.0
38	ML Hidge	Industrials L-R	100.00	0.00	0.0
39	CAP Group	Electricals	100.00	0.00	0.0
40	Magnet (as)	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
41	Marshall (Halter)	Building Roads	100.00	0.00	0.0
42	Diploma	Industrials A-D	100.00	0.00	0.0

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## BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change

### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change
100.00	99.00	Wholesale Firm	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Securinvest	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cherwell	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Penney	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & WA 'A'	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & Gordon (I)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Meyer Int	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Croda	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Aprioc Computers	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nat West (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Countrywide	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	TVS	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cowes De Groot	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	BOC (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Taylor Woodrow	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	General Motor	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nagard	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Burnell (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cento Eng	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Black (Peter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Phoenix Prop	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	First Nat Finance	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Johnson Matthey	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nile Foods (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smallware (R)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bodycote	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Amro	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Equity & Gen	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bradford	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ward Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	STR (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Eng China Clay (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ultramar (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Whitson	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	ML Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	CAP Group	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Magnet (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marshall (Halter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Diploma	100.00	0.00

### FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change
100.00	99.00	Wholesale Firm	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Securinvest	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cherwell	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Penney	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & WA 'A'	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & Gordon (I)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Meyer Int	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Croda	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Aprioc Computers	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nat West (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Countrywide	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	TVS	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cowes De Groot	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	BOC (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Taylor Woodrow	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	General Motor	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nagard	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Burnell (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cento Eng	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Black (Peter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Phoenix Prop	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	First Nat Finance	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Johnson Matthey	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nile Foods (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smallware (R)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bodycote	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Amro	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Equity & Gen	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bradford	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ward Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	STR (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Eng China Clay (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ultramar (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Whitson	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	ML Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	CAP Group	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Magnet (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marshall (Halter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Diploma	100.00	0.00

### OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change
100.00	99.00	Wholesale Firm	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Securinvest	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cherwell	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Penney	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & WA 'A'	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smith & Gordon (I)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Meyer Int	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Croda	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Aprioc Computers	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nat West (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Countrywide	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	TVS	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cowes De Groot	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	BOC (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Taylor Woodrow	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	General Motor	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nagard	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Burnell (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Cento Eng	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Black (Peter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Phoenix Prop	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	First Nat Finance	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Johnson Matthey	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Nile Foods (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Smallware (R)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bodycote	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marley	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Amro	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Equity & Gen	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Bradford	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ward Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	STR (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Eng China Clay (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Ultramar (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Whitson	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	ML Hidge	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	CAP Group	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Magnet (as)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Marshall (Halter)	100.00	0.00
100.00	99.00	Diploma	100.00	0.00

### UNDATED

DEX-Linked					DEX-Linked					DEX-Linked				
134	Tracs	L2	2%	1998	134	--	--	3.075	134	--	--	3.075		
108	Tracs	L1	2%	1990	118	--	--	2.1	108	--	--	2.1		
93	Tracs	L1	2%	1982	106	--	--	2.1	93	--	--	2.1		
117	Tracs	L2	2%	2001	105	--	--	2.3	117	--	--	2.3		
98	Tracs	L2	2%	2003	105	--	--	3.0	98	--	--	3.0		
94	Tracs	L2	2%	2005	107	--	--	2.8	94	--	--	2.8		
89	Tracs	L2	2%	2008	100	--	--	3.2	89	--	--	3.2		
83	Tracs	L2	2%	2011	104	--	--	2.4	83	--	--	2.4		
78	Tracs	L2	2%	2013	104	--	--	2.3	78	--	--	2.3		
82	Tracs	L2	2%	2015	93	--	--	3.4	82	--	--	3.4		
81	Tracs	L2	2%	2020	72	--	--	3.3	81	--	--	3.3		
				2024	99	--	--	3.4				3.4		







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<b>D.1 MANILLA</b> 7 1/2 x 9 1/8 in.	1000	£5.95
<b>D.2 WHITE MAILING WALLET</b>	1000	£6.95
<b>D.3 WHITE SELF SEAL 11 1/2 x 15 1/2 in.</b>	1000	£5.95
<b>POLYMER PRINTED LITHOGRAPH</b>	1000	£9.50
<b>P.R. MANILLA GUMMED</b>	1000	£9.50
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## RUGBY UNION: OUT OF THE SACRIFICIAL FIRE AT TWICKENHAM A PENDRAGON MAY RISE

## Clement will show no clemency

By Gerald Davies

Tony Clement, aged 20, the Swansea stand-off half who will play at full back for Wales at Twickenham tomorrow, understands well enough the task that lies ahead. But it comforts him to know that he is no solitary miser, without precedent, in this respect. Such a trick of transfer has been done before and is almost cyclical in its nature and achieved success.

The Welsh selectors, known omnisciently as "the Big Five", are as prone as any Druids' circle at their high altar to look as much to poetry as to the elemental qualities of earth, wind and fire in their players.

More of a slender thread of a pagan ritual, but beginning to weave a singular and discernible pattern, is the thrusting of a virginal youth as a sacrifice to the English, accompanied with many a southpaw on the touchline forecasting doom. Except that, with typical Celtic cunning, a touch of magic and not a little perspiration and a few crossed fingers, from the kindling sacrifice a pendragon emerges.

In 1933 they chose an Old Llandoveryan and Oxford student, the 20-year-old Vivian Jenkins, a centre three-quarter, to play at full back. He had a brilliant game and Wales, under the captaincy of Watcyn Thomas, won at Twickenham for the first time since international matches had begun to be played there in 1910.

Seventeen years later they included the 18-year-old Devonport Service-man from Gorseinon, Lewis Jones, another three-quarter, at full back. Running from his own half at Twickenham, he created a try for the ubiquitous prop forward, Cliff Davies, to win the game after which, with John Williams as captain, the team went on to take the triple crown for the first time in 39 years.

Another 17 years later, on a sun-soaked April day at the Arms Park in 1967, another 18-year-old just down from Monmouth School created such a legend that the match is forever remembered in Keith Jarrett's name. He had played only one half of a game at full back. Newport against Newbridge before he ran and kicked his way into history and collected a record 19 points.

In a game in which David Watkins, the captain, had won the toss and chosen to kick off rather than take sides, to give the young man time to settle down, England went on to score the highest number of points, 21, and yet still managed to lose. Although consistent success was some season or two away, this game for many Welsh people remains symbolically as the dawn which presaged the Midas era.

Of the three, only one — Jenkins — remained to make a famous reputation for himself in the position. The other two soon reverted to their centre positions before turning ultimately to Rugby League. All three were goal-kickers, which accounted primarily for their inclusion.

Clement, who stands in this line of heroes, was born only a couple of months before Jarrett's great day, is no kicker of goals in a way in which the man he replaces, Paul Thorburn, clearly is, and which makes the selectors' decision this time a greater risk. Goal-kicking can hardly be disguised.

Clement, though, is a self-assured young man, confident of his ability

and his presence. His pedigree is good, too. He was singled out at an early age as a player of note and went through all the school teams to win eventually six caps for the Welsh Youth team in two seasons between 1984 and 1986 and progressed naturally from Morrison, the feeder club, to Swansea.

Last summer he took time off from the West Glamorgan treasurer's department to travel to New Zealand and play a full season for the Ponke club in Wellington. If he feels that his greatest concern inevitably tomorrow is the peering high kicks he is likely to receive from Cusworth, then for those who have observed Clement's abundant talent there is an equally terrific burden on the English stand-off half to be especially accurate.

For if he is not, there is no better man than the new Welsh full back to expose the flaw either by his clever running or kicking the ball out of play with the longest touch-finders, apart from Lescarboura's, in the business. It is just as likely to cast his own spell on the game as any of the others who have gone before him.

## Dubroca's last chance to end 10-year famine

By Chris Thain

France have lost two grand slams at Murrayfield this decade. And on both occasions it was their captain that let them down. In 1964 Jean-Pierre Rives lost his cool and brought disaster upon his men. However, he never acknowledged his share in the defeat and blamed everything on Welsh referee Winston Jones.

Two years ago it was Daniel Dubroca who did it. His misdeeds against Colin Deans cost France six points and, of course, a grand slam. But the former from Marseilles and the level-headed French coach, Jacques Fouroux, have decided between them that the old French practice of blaming the referee for their misfortunes should be brought to an end. Instead Dubroca said publicly that he had lost the game and that France have to improve their discipline dramatically if they want to succeed in style at international level.

It was a turning point in the recent history of French rugby. The following year France won the grand slam hands down and reached the final of the World Cup.

"The game against Scotland two years ago was indeed significant because we had to acknowledge the error of our ways and ourselves. We scored two tries and lost by one point with Hastings kicking six penalties," Dubroca said.

"It is about survival and intelligence. The parameters of the game are quite clear but referees are not. We kept ignoring one of them at a time and despite having brilliant players and great teams we kept losing

crucial games for silly infringements like hands in a ruck or collapsed scrums. What was done was to emphasize the need to eliminate unnecessary errors yet maintaining discipline with our traditional features, adventure and pleasure of running."

Dubroca has yet to win at Murrayfield for a number of years, but he is particularly favourable to the French team.

He has announced his retirement from international rugby at the end of this season and the game against Scotland at the weekend is his last chance to end a 10-year long French famine and break the jinx of Murrayfield.

"It is the only five-nations ground where I haven't won a game yet. I have won all over the world from Auckland to Sydney and Buenos Aires and elsewhere in London, Cardiff and Dublin, but not at Murrayfield. I really hope we can do it this time."

"The English game was a cold shower for many. I also said that the English were very good and warned against complacency. But we lacked enthusiasm and spirit for combat. Besides, they put us under enormous pressure in the scrum. Both our props were never really in the game and we were pushed about."

"I've never lost three balls on our own put-in in one game in my whole career. But their scrumming was beautifully organized and their hooker did a very good job. Now we'll inject the missing zest and spirit and we will be more rigorous in the scrum."

The vitriolic reaction of the French media after the game is



Dubroca showing the way: time for the French to stop losing games for silly infringements

dismissed by Dubroca as a case of confusing the facts with fiction.

"They kept saying that British rugby is taking a nose-dive, that they've lost momentum and that we were going to win by 30 points. They had lifted artificially the expectations of the public talking about another grand slam. They judged everything by the standards of the World Cup and the 1987 grand slam, which was a mistake. I

kept saying that the English are a force to be reckoned with and that we were going to win. I was wrong. I believe that the game in Paris was a step in the right direction."

Dubroca is firmly committed to securing the missing trophy for his huge collection of 11 grand slams, even if it means playing the ghost of both 1984 and 1986 "near grand slams."

He is confident that the ground game in Paris, which is higher and drier, and won an entertaining contest by three goals and a try to a try and a penalty.

QECS Wakefield have some impressive wins to record: 27-4, versus Cardiff (10-5), versus KCS Warrington (14-4), versus Leeds (33-13), and versus Stuyvesant (20-12).

## Welsh seven will join Bicentennial party

By David Hands

Wales will send a national team to the New South Wales Bicentennial party on April 2 to 3, though they may be the only one of the home unions to do so.

Tony Gray, their coach, will manage the party at an event which also forms part of the Bicentennial celebrations. The tournament, at the Concord Oval in Sydney, began two years ago when Wales, though they did not reach the final, had the pleasure of beating New Zealand in a group match, thanks to the inspiration provided by Jonathan Davies. Scott Williams is still considering whether to accept an invitation, but Ireland and England are unlikely to go.

A suitably selective itinerary has been mapped out for the Western Samoans when they tour Wales and Ireland next season. There will be ten matches, three of them in

Ireland, including two international matches against the host country.

There is recognition of the needs of North Wales, who have a match at Wrexham on October 19, while Aberavon, who have so often shared with North Wales, have a fixture of their own. Pontypridd's recent good form has earned them a game, which will be the penultimate match before the international in Cardiff, on November 12.

Wales visited Western Samoa while on tour in the South Sea in 1986. Ireland have had no previous contact with them and have yet to decide which province or club will oppose the Samoans outside the international match.

ITINERARY: October 11: Wales Counties under-23, Ireland; 12: Newbridge; 13: North Wales; 14: Wrexham; 15: Aberavon; 16: Llanelli; 17: Cardiff; 18: Wales v Ireland; 19: Pontypridd; 20: Wales, Cardiff.

## Full-strength Bangor after revenge

By Michael Stevenson

The inaugural battle for the Smithwick's Flood Challenge Cup, between Old Wesley, the Leinster champions, and Bangor, the Ulster kingpins, at Uppichard Park tonight is virtually certain to take place despite the torrential rain which has swept the Province (George Ace writes). "Only a heavy overnight snowfall — and that is not forecast — will put the game in jeopardy," Con McCall, the Bangor public relations officer, said yesterday.

Bangor is a club that does not take kindly to being beaten. The last time it happened was in September, when tonight's opponents were successful in Dublin. "We were minus our Ulster players on that occasion," McCall said, "but Old Wesley are a good side, and I think it will be a cracking match."

Bangor are at full strength tonight, and on their own pitch the odds must favour them.

## 10 out of 10 for boys from Garth Hills

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

Garth Hill School, Berkshire, is a mixed comprehensive, of which 600 are boys and their master-in-charge of rugby, Nigel Duncan, who is also head of PE, is delighted with this season's results. The school has played 10 matches and is still unbeaten. One match was drawn (10-10) against Kaseleigh and the only other game in which Garth Hill was extended was their 14-4 win against Forest.

Nottingham HS entertaining Pocklington, who have enjoyed mixed fortunes this season, found the score level (10-10) in the interval but established command in the second half, through a penalty by Jason Parker, a drop goal by Nick Hunter and a last-minute conversion of a try by Nick Carr.

Rossall's first XV victory (14-6) over St Asaph's was followed by the exit of their

pridigiously successful under-15 side from the Daily Mail competition. They lost (12-11) to Durham, following an unbeaten run of 20 matches.

In the context of junior rugby, Eastbourne College's under-14 side have achieved the virtually impossible feat of not conceding a single point, while scoring 474.

Regate GS was one of the few schools in the south east to outwit the floods and fulfil their home match against John Fisher's. They transferred the game to Purley, which is higher and drier, and won an entertaining contest by three goals and a try to a try and a penalty.

QECS Wakefield have some impressive wins to record: 27-4, versus Cardiff (10-5), versus KCS Warrington (14-4), versus Leeds (33-13), and versus Stuyvesant (20-12).

## FA could charge Darracott

By Dennis Signy

Terry Darracott, the Everton assistant manager and coach, could face a charge of bringing the Port Victoria club into disrepute after being sent off during Wednesday's FA Cup fourth round replay against Middlesbrough at Ayrton Park.

Darracott was spoken to by the referee, Karen Barnatt, of Coventry, after appearing to make remarks to a linesman. He was then ordered from the dug-out.

Everton, seconds away from securing a home fifth round tie with Liverpool in normal time, eventually needed an equalizer from Trevor Steven in the last minute of extra time to force a third match at Goodison Park next Tuesday.

This will be their seventh game in two rounds and will follow the first leg of the Littlewoods Cup semi-final against Arsenal on Sunday. "I never seems to end, but that's the way of the Cup," said their captain, Peter Reid.

Middlesbrough City qualified for a home fifth round game with Plymouth Argyle by beating Blackpool 2-1 in the replay at Maine Road. Paul Stewart scored for City against his former club but also missed a penalty.

Reading put relegation aside as they eliminated Nottingham Forest from the Simod Cup 2-1 after extra time at Elm Park and now stand just two games away from their first trip to Wembley.

## North has the respect of Bassett

By Dennis Signy

The big clubs in the north are less likely to slip up against the Port Victoria club than they were in the football world than the southern counterparts, Dave Bassett, the recently appointed manager of Sheffield United, told a Sports Writers' Association in London.

"The top London clubs always seem to be more vulnerable," Bassett said, "but they are not. They are now so reluctant to give up the first division status they won under him."

The greater passion for the game in the north and tougher mental attitude are qualities that, he feels, will be reflected in United's hunger for success.

Referring to his term as manager of Watford, Bassett said: "I don't regret anything I did. What I did was right. I am not a Graham Taylor clone. I won't change. You don't change successful foundations. I would have got it right in the end."

Tony Currie, the former England and Sheffield United inside forward, is to help the club with their community programme. He will coach youngsters in the area. "They think a lot of him in Sheffield," Bassett said. "Our association with him and his with the community will help the club get people back through the turnstiles."

In the Mire Under-19 Competition, Cleveland and West Verkes were 1-1 at half-time with Ripley scoring for Cleveland and Green for West Verkes. In the last 10 minutes Alderton and Atkinson made certain that Cleveland would move to the top of their division as they ran 3-1 winners.

University College School were hosts to Bedford School, and noble hosts they were in as the game was allowed to start at all. The centre of the field was a mudbath and during part of the game driving rain and a gale made conditions even worse. Both sides came out of a 0-0 draw with great credit.

In the last few minutes Alcorn pulled off a fine save for Bedford, but their man of the match was Simfield, who kept the ball moving in midfield.

Halbherr drew 4-4 with St Albans, despite being 3-1 behind at half-time. Millfield were also involved in a high-

## BOXING

## Walker's one in the eye for Sibson

By Srikanth Sen Boxing Correspondent

It was, after all, a smart piece of match-making and timing by Mickey Duff to pit Michael Watson, rising middleweight, against Dangerous Don Lee, of the United States, four days before Tony Sibson's challenge for Frank Tate's IBF title at Sandown. Lee stopped Sibson in eight rounds four years ago; Watson stopped Lee in five at the Grand Hall, Wembley, on Wednesday night.

That was not only one in the eye for Sibson, but for Watson's rival for the British title, Nigel Benn, and for his manager, Frank Warren, Duff's bitter rival — it also put Watson in a strong position to claim a world contender's place. Sibson is No. 7 and Lee No. 14.

But the Lee that Watson met was not the same man that floored Sibson four times. Lee did not land one telling blow on Watson, who was having his first 10-rounder. It was not that the British boxer was too elusive, for he carried the fight to Lee and was there to be hit. All Lee could do was punt and push. Generally, he looked incapable of punching his air ticket back to Milwaukee. No wonder he suffered a badly cut lip in the fifth that prevented him from going on.

Therefore it was a pity that, for hype's sake, Watson's encounter pushed the British lightweight-middleweight title bout between Gary Cooper, of Lymington, and Michael Harris, of Swansea, into second place. For this was a much better contest and an exciting one with good, solid boxing from both sides. Cooper, boxing well behind his long jab, won 18/16/16, a margin of four rounds, but he had to get off the floor in the fifth, which he did smartly enough.

Darlie Smith, who had been called in by Cooper's manager, Jack Bishop, to help out in the corner, said he was surprised that Harris decided to fight instead of box. "We knew he was a good left-hand boxer and we had been prepared to sit on him straight away," Smith said. "But when he started to come in with those hooks, I knew Gary caught him with his jab, he just kept jabbing away. Why sell oranges when apples are going well."

Cooper must defend against Gary Stretch within 60 days. That will be a cracking bout but the 22-year-old British boxer may not have the pleasure if Cooper, aged 30, goes for the European title. "We would give up the British title if we won the European," Bishop said yesterday. "I am sure that Gary or Gary. He is a really nice man. He's given everything to boxing and at 30 deserves his title. He is a champion outside and now he is champion inside the ring."

## ATHLETICS

## Budd may be on the move

Zola Budd has been urged by her new coach to change her lifestyle by moving home and developing new interests. John Bryant, a former distance runner who lives in London, said: "My advice to Zola is to move from Guildford to be near me and to share a house with girls of her own age."

"I also believe she needs to do other things. She is very interested in animals and a college or university course would be ideal."

After the television commentator, Ron Pickering, had voiced his disapproval of the former South African's failure to spend more time in Britain, Bryant said: "I honestly feel she is committed to Britain and will do everything she can to convince people of that."

Pickering said on BBC's *Sportsworld* programme: "She has abused her British passport by not living here. It's been a flag of convenience. She has taken us all for a ride." He suggested that she should be stopped from United in next month's world cross-country championships in New Zealand.

## WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

FA CUP: Fourth round replay: Middlesbrough 2, Blackpool 1 (Manchester City at home to Plymouth Argyle 1-1; Everton 2, set score after 90m 1-1; Blackburn at home to Liverpool).

SBMO CUP: Third round: Reading 2, Nottingham Forest 1 (set score after 90m 1-1).

SHERRA VAN TROPHY: First round: Carlisle United 0, Harrogate 0 (Harrogate away to Sunderland).

SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: Forth Athletic 1, Partick Thistle 1. Third round replays: Arbroath 0, Dunfermline 2; Brechin City 0, Dundee 3; Cowdenbeath 0, Clyde 1; Kilmarnock 1, Motherwell 3.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Heart of Midlothian 1, Dundee United 1.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Postlewood 2, St Johnstone 3; Stranraer v Queen's Park.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Hull City 1, Leeds United 1; Millwall 1, Chelsea 0; Ayr United 0, Dunfermline 2; Brechin City 0, Dundee 3; Cowdenbeath 0, Clyde 1; Kilmarnock 1, Motherwell 3.

VALMALL OPEL LEAGUE: Second division: Carlisle United 0, Harrogate 0; Reading 2, Nottingham Forest 1; Stranraer v Queen's Park.

SHERRA VAN TROPHY: First round: Carlisle United 0, Harrogate 0 (Harrogate away to Sunderland).

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## SNOW REPORTS

Depth (cm)	U	Piste	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (BPM)	°C
AUSTRIA	0	30	fair	varied	poor	windy 2
Resort limited but Avaran good						
Obertauern	60	100	good	crust	good	cloud 1
Excellent snow on pistes						
St Anton	50	250	good	varied	good	fine 0
Wind crust off piste						
FRANCE						
Flaine	90	240	good	heavy	good	snow -3
Excellent skiing						
Megève	50	175	good	powder	good	snow -2
All runs in good condition						
La Plagne	140	180	good	powder	good	snow -5
Powder on a good base						
Tignes	140	235	good	varied	good	cloud -1
Excellent skiing conditions						
ITALY						
Courmayeur	90	220	good	crust	fair	snow -3
All pistes excellent						
SWITZERLAND						
Devis	50	100	good	varied	fair	fine 1
Good on and off piste						
Grindelwald	15	80	fair	varied	fair	cloud 4
Good skiing on many pistes						
Mürren	45	85	good	varied	good	cloud 0
Excellent piste skiing down to 1,800m						
Villars	50	110	good	varied	good	cloud -2
Good skiing on a hard base						
Zermatt	60	110	good	varied	fair	cloud -1
Pistes in excellent condition						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

Information supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

Information supplied by the Austrian National Tourist Office.

Information supplied by the German National Tourist Office.

Information supplied by the French National Tourist Office.

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Information supplied by the French National Tourist Office.

Information supplied by the Italian National Tourist Office.

## FOR THE RECORD

## TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: American Zone: Vitas Gerulaitis, Chile 1-0.

## HANG-GLIDING

BRIGHT, Australia: World championships: New Zealand 1, Australia 2, USA 3, France 4, Austria 5, Italy 6, USSR 7, Canada 8, West Germany 9, Czech Republic 10, Sweden 11, Norway 12, Finland 13, Denmark 14, Netherlands 15, Belgium 16, Luxembourg 17, Greece 18, Spain 19, Portugal 20, Ireland 21, United Kingdom 22, Malta 23, Cyprus 24, Turkey 25, Bulgaria 26, Romania 27, Poland 28, Hungary 29, Czech Republic 30, Slovakia 31, Slovenia 32, Croatia 33, Serbia 34, Montenegro 35, Bosnia and Herzegovina 36, Herzegovina 37, Macedonia 38, Bulgaria 39, Romania 40, Poland 41, Hungary 42, Czech Republic 43, Slovakia 44, Slovenia 45, Croatia 46, Serbia 47, Montenegro 48, Bosnia and Herzegovina 49, Herzegovina 50, Macedonia 51, Bulgaria 52, Romania 53, Poland 54, Hungary 55, Czech Republic 56, Slovakia 57, Slovenia 58, Croatia 59, Serbia 60, Montenegro 61, Bosnia and Herzegovina 62, Herzegovina 63, Macedonia 64, Bulgaria 65, Romania 66, Poland 67, Hungary 68, Czech Republic 69, Slovakia 70, Slovenia 71, Croatia 72, Serbia 73, Montenegro 74, Bosnia and Herzegovina 75, Herzegovina 76, Macedonia 77, Bulgaria 78, Romania 79, Poland 80, Hungary 81, Czech Republic 82, Slovakia 83, Slovenia 84, Croatia 85, Serbia 86, Montenegro 87, Bosnia and Herzegovina 88, Herzegovina 89, Macedonia 90, Bulgaria 91, Romania 92, Poland 93, Hungary 94, Czech Republic 95, Slovakia 96, Slovenia 97, Croatia 98, Serbia 99, Montenegro 100, Bosnia and Herzegovina 101, Herzegovina 102, Macedonia 103, Bulgaria 104, Romania 105, Poland 106, Hungary 107, Czech Republic 108, Slovakia 109, Slovenia 110, Croatia 111, Serbia 112, Montenegro 113, Bosnia and Herzegovina 114, Herzegovina 115, Macedonia 116, Bulgaria 117, Romania 118, Poland 119, Hungary 120, Czech Republic 121, Slovakia 122, Slovenia 123, Croatia 124, Serbia 125, Montenegro 126, Bosnia and Herzegovina 127, Herzegovina 128, Macedonia 129, Bulgaria 130, Romania 131, Poland 132, Hungary 133, Czech Republic 134, Slovakia 135, Slovenia 136, Croatia 137, Serbia 138, Montenegro 139, Bosnia and Herzegovina 140, Herzegovina 141, Macedonia 142, Bulgaria 143, Romania 144, Poland 145, Hungary 146, Czech Republic 147, Slovakia 148, Slovenia 149, Croatia 150, Serbia 151, Montenegro 152, Bosnia and Herzegovina 153, Herzegovina 154, Macedonia 155, Bulgaria 156, Romania 157, Poland 158, Hungary 159, Czech Republic 160, Slovakia 161, Slovenia 162, Croatia 163, Serbia 164, Montenegro 165, Bosnia and Herzegovina 166, Herzegovina 167, Macedonia 168, Bulgaria 169, Romania 170, Poland 171, Hungary 172, Czech Republic 173, Slovakia 174, Slovenia 175, Croatia 176, Serbia 177, Montenegro 178, Bosnia and Herzegovina 179, Herzegovina 180, Macedonia 181, Bulgaria 182, Romania 183, Poland 184, Hungary 185, Czech Republic 186, Slovakia 187, Slovenia 188, Croatia 189, Serbia 190, Montenegro 191, Bosnia and Herzegovina 192, Herzegovina 193, Macedonia 194, Bulgaria 195, Romania 196, Poland 197, Hungary 198, Czech Republic 199, Slovakia 200, Slovenia 201, Croatia 202, Serbia 203, Montenegro 204, Bosnia and Herzegovina 205, Herzegovina 206, Macedonia 207, Bulgaria 208, Romania 209, Poland 210, Hungary 211, Czech Republic 212, Slovakia 213, Slovenia 214, Croatia 215, Serbia 216, Montenegro 217, Bosnia and Herzegovina 218, Herzegovina 219, Macedonia 220, Bulgaria 221, Romania 222, Poland 223, Hungary 224, Czech Republic 225, Slovakia 2



